

## Liquidator at UCS finds £28M debts

By JOHN KERR in Glasgow

The crisis at Upper Clyde Shipbuilders assumed the proportions of a financial catastrophe yesterday when it was revealed that the company had liabilities of £28 millions with current assets of £2 millions to £3 millions, and that about 1,000 unsecured creditors were unlikely to be paid.

The extent of the debts was divulged in Glasgow by Mr Robert C. Smith, an accountant appointed to act as provisional liquidator in winding up UCS. Earlier, in the Court of Session in Edinburgh, Mr W. D. Cullen, counsel for the company, was told by Lord Fraser from the Bench to "stop being mysterious" in references to fixed and current assets. Mr Cullen then said a figure of between £2 millions and £3 millions would be appropriate for the current assets.

Asked to comment on this figure, Mr Smith said he had not had an opportunity to study the company's books and could not say what the assets were. They would, however, be represented by "the doubtful value of fixed assets in shipyards and the problematical assets of partly completed vessels."

Mr Smith is to ask the Department of Trade and Industry later this week for financial assistance of about £3 millions to cover the running costs of the company for six weeks. He said he would like to have breathing space until the end of July to study the situation and prepare his recommendations of what might be salvaged.

"If money is not forthcoming from that source," he added, "I would have no alternative but to close down." In effect, to keep the company afloat for six weeks, Mr Smith is asking the

Leader comment: The men who face unemployment, page 10; Emergency debate, page 12; Fears for supplies, page 13.

Government for about half the sum which the UCS directors said would see them through to a position of viable trading.

Mr Smith made it clear that whatever happens to individual yards or assets the UCS group will come to an end. He said he had no alternative but to close down. He said his duty as liquidator was to wind up the company, although this could involve the disposal of certain elements within it which could be continuing assets for someone

## Britain blamed over R-R

From ADAM RAPHAEL

Washington, June 15  
The British Government's decision to let Rolls-Royce go bankrupt and its refusal to honour the original RB211 engine contract with Lockheed were bitterly attacked in Congress today.

Mr Fred Borch, chairman of General Electric, a long time rival of Rolls-Royce, said that Lockheed's financial plight was the British Government's fault and thus it was its responsibility, not Congress's, to guarantee the \$250 million loan needed by the company to avoid bankruptcy.

If the British Government refuses to meet its responsibilities, Mr Borch told the Senate banking committee today, "then I would suggest there must be a reason. They are far more at stake in this than we are... from my experience of competing with the British — they are the best poker players I have ever met."

Immediately after this testimony, Senator Proxmire said it was essential that the representative of the British Government should appear before the committee to answer these charges. The Wisconsin Democratic Senator said numerous inconsistencies had been shown. Senator Proxmire claimed that only the British Government could clear up the following questions:

1. What was the precise nature of the guarantee it was seeking of its £150 million to £200 million investment in the RB-211?
2. What was the status of the possible BEA orders for the TriStar?
3. What assurances has the British Government given that the RB-211 engine would continue in production?
4. Why should the British Government not guarantee the \$250 million needed by Lockheed?
5. Was the RB-211 contract with Lockheed won by unfair competition with US engine manufacturers?

## Benn lames a Tory duck

By NORMAN SHRAPNEL, Parliamentary Correspondent

Mr Wedgwood Benn made it resoundingly clear in the Commons last night what his targets are. He wants to nationalise Upper Clyde Shipbuilders, and he wants to sink the Heath Government. As one can hardly happen without the other, the question of priorities seemed irrelevant.

This was an attacking performance of punishing power and versatility. No holds were barred, which seemed indiscreet to the enemy and to his more nervous friends. Wasn't Mr Benn a shade over-exposed in the matter of rescue operations for UCS?

"We regard this as a motion of censure," he began. "On you you!" the Tory backbenchers roared. Arising whole broadsides of accusing fingers in his direction. Their line was that his own record in office was riddled with holes.

Mr Benn let that go for the moment. He had a shot in his locker that would silence them all, but he was not going to fire it until he could see the whites of Mr John Davies's eyes. Meanwhile he treated us to a little maritime history, from which you would have gathered that the Conservatives had sunk more British shipping than the U-boats of two wars. It fell to Labour, he scarcely needed to add, to salvage some of the wreckage.

He made much of the Guardian article revealing Mr Nicholas Ridley's plans for UCS, and infuriated the Tories by saying that while the Government was plotting its betrayal, individual Conservative backbenchers were pleading for its support. He goaded them to fury, provoked Mr Davies to his feet several times, and then produced that deadly shot he had been keeping specially for the Secretary for Trade and Industry.

Mr Davies had quoted Mr Benn as telling the Commons in December, 1969, that there was not sufficient priority to justify investing more funds in UCS. Well, he had said something like that, but not about UCS. He had said it about the Beagle aircraft company.

"He totally misled the House," Mr Benn said, and the Labour side boomed with indignation. When Mr Davies apologised for his mistake, which scarcely sounded like Heath-style efficient vigour as he best, he could not refrain from suggesting that Mr Benn had in fact made such a statement outside the House.

The start was deceptively quiet. Mr Davies introduced one quaint new note by stalking in from behind the Speaker's chair when his name was called like an actor taking the stage.

He was not without sympathy, though a shade nettled at having been asked for so much money at such short notice, and not without regret at having to turn them down. He called it a "dreadful situation. Not was he unaware of the 'dreadful serious' consequences. He repeated the words at least half a dozen times, which was presumably Mr Davies's way since he is not free with his emotions when he is with his money. Of trying to persuade the Opposition that he really meant them.

In this he failed dismally. They refused to accept the serene assurances of the pain of the present situation, or his carefully subdued glimmer of hope about the future prospects. They were unimpressed by the three experts he was calling in, and he soon was particularly scornful that he should be consulting a banker, a distiller, and a chartered accountant to tell him how to run a shipyard, when he "hadn't the guts to go to Clydeside" and talk to the men concerned.

## Plea for father in prison

By HAROLD JACKSON

The chairman of the Supplementary Benefits Commission, Lord Collinson, has been asked to intervene to help a chronically sick man now serving 50 days in prison for offences committed by his children.

The Child Poverty Action Group has asked that an immediate exceptional needs payment of £16 be made to a Barnsley family so that the father may be released from prison.

He was sent there two weeks ago after failing to pay fines imposed on two of his three sons found guilty of stealing a set of old golf clubs. The children claimed they found them in the back of a wrecked car in a junk yard but the court found both boys, aged 11 and 13, guilty of theft and fined each £8. Because of their age, the father was held

responsible for the fines. It was the children's first appearance in court.

The man, whose name has been kept secret, worked as a shunter for the National Coal Board, but fell ill five years ago, and has lived on supplementary benefit since then. His allowance is subject to the wage stop, which lays down that benefit payments may not exceed the amount he might be expected to earn if he worked. As a result he receives only £11 a week of the £14.50 to which he might have been entitled.

After the fines had been imposed he applied to the local office of the Department of Health and Social Security for help but this was refused. He had paid some of the outstanding amount but was arrested for

defaulting on the remainder. The CPAG asks that the commission meet the full sum so that he can rejoin his family.

The Department of Health and Social Security last night said it could not comment on individual cases but that a reply would be sent to the CPAG. Its spokesman added: "It is not the Supplementary Benefits Commission's function to meet any expenses of this kind."

In its letter to Lord Collinson, the group says that unforeseen expenditure such as a fine can often make the difference between a family surviving and going under. Mr Frank Field, the group's director, has asked Lord Collinson if any directive on the matter has been sent to local officers of the commission.

"Do you expect to be told if



Refugees from East Pakistan boarding a Soviet transport plane taking them from Calcutta to new camps yesterday

## Refugees angered by UN officials' remark

From SIMON WINCHESTER: Calcutta, June 15

There was widespread anger and consternation in Calcutta tonight after the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Prince Sadruddin, brother of the Aga Khan, said he regarded the situation in East Pakistan as "optimistic," and that he "did not see why the refugees should not be able to return home in time."

The prince, who made his remarks during a four-hour tour of refugee camps in the Bangor area, 50 miles from Calcutta, immediately became the target of angry exchanges with refugees who had listened to his comments to reporters. But the refugees were brushed aside by a British United Nations official, Mr Thomas Jamieson, who said the prince could not enter into a political discussion.

After talks later this evening with Indian Government officials in Calcutta the Prince refused to talk to reporters and did not even issue a statement acknowledging the gravity of the present situation. A senior Government official said: "The Prince has been listening to things in East Pakistan that are still ringing in his ears."

During his tour of the border areas today the Prince, who arrived in India yesterday after a three-day tour of East Pakistan, said he had seen evidence that President Yahya Khan had

been "quite genuine" in his invitation to all refugees to return. He claimed to have seen rehabilitation camps, prepared by the Pakistani Government, which were designed for use by the returning East Bengalis.

There had been a cynical reaction in Calcutta to the High Commissioner's visit when it had been announced. The Prince is, of course, a leading Muslim, and as such is not regarded here as the most impartial of observers who could be sent to inspect the current crisis. During his tour today the prince said he would be "very sorry" if there was antagonism between Hindus and Muslims in Bengal.

The High Commissioner arrived in Calcutta this morning after talks in Delhi with the Indian Minister for Labour and Rehabilitation, Mr R. K. Khadija. The Minister is understood to have stressed the need for the refugees in West Bengal to return home.

After today's talks, Prince Sadruddin was asked if he had any comment to make on the gravity of the situation and what steps the UN might take to solve the crisis. He replied: "I am afraid I cannot say a simple thing."

The widespread Indian dissatisfaction with the United Nations' seeming inactivity and lack of understanding of the problem, coincides with new and dangerous tensions in the border areas. Relief workers

report an almost total stoppage of the flow of refugees in the Petrapole area, north-east of Calcutta, because of military activity.

Indian and Pakistani troops who have now sealed a part of the border completely, are now said to be facing each other at short range, and there are daily reports of shelling. Access to the area is now forbidden to foreign journalists, and reports are necessarily unreliable, but it appears reasonable to suppose that there is greatly increased hostile military activity in the area.

This development looks all the more sinister in the light of the comment in Canada yesterday by the Indian Foreign Minister, Mr Swaran Singh, that his country "might be compelled to move" if the world failed to stop the continuing genocide in East Pakistan.

The first of the refugees camped outside the village of Barasat, near Calcutta, were moved by Russian transport planes to Raipur, today. By dusk about 400 people had been moved to an encampment which the Orissa State Government is providing for an estimated 50,000 evacuees from West Bengal.

Pakistan guilty of genocide, back page

## Inquiry on fire

When the wife of a fire extinguisher salesman fought a chip pan fire at their home with her husband's product, she was burnt on the neck and hands, Staffordshire Fire Brigade Committee was told yesterday.

Mr David Blacktop, the county Council Fire Officer, said the woman's husband asked the Fire Service to investigate. It found that the aerosol extinguisher contained carbon tetrachloride — a chemical no longer in use for extinguishers. The contents were stated on the label to conform to British Standard No. 1742. This was the standard adopted for the method of chemical analysis of condensed milk.

## NYT ban sought by Nixon

The US Government is seeking a court order under the Espionage Act to stop the "New York Times" publishing more secret Vietnam war documents. The Administration says national security will otherwise suffer "immediate and irreparable harm." The Act's top penalties are a \$10,000 fine or 10 years imprisonment. Richard Scott, page 2

## Inquest on girl

An inquest begins in Birmingham tomorrow into the case of Yasmin Khan, aged five, a Pakistani, who died in Belgium. Her body had apparently been carried for two days in a van containing six other Pakistani children. Her death was not notified until the van reached Birmingham.

## Smoking curb

The Jersey Parliament is to introduce a bill next month to give police the power to confiscate tobacco found on children under 16. The bill will also make it an offence, carrying a £25 fine, for a shopkeeper to sell tobacco to anyone under 16.

## Rescued at sea

Jason White, aged 13, a Jamaican, was rescued by a ship yesterday after spending 40 days adrift in the Caribbean in a small fishing boat with a family engine. He said he had had to bury his father at sea.

## TV, radio—2

Overseas ... 24 En/mots ... 12  
Home ... 57 Business ... 13-15  
Arts ... 8 Horner ... 17  
Women ... 9 X-words ... 17, 19  
Parliament ... 12 Sport ... 18, 19

Classified: 16, 17

## Market decision date recedes

By FRANCIS BOYD, Political Correspondent

Mr Heath hopes to calm the Commons about the timing of any British entry into the EEC by stating that a parliamentary decision on the final act of entry will not be sought before the end of the year or the beginning of next. The final act would be ratification of a treaty, or approval of a Bill embodying a treaty.

Mr Heath will make his statement on the parliamentary procedure that would follow successful negotiations today, or tomorrow. He has still to get agreement from his colleagues on the content of the statement.

Although Parliament might be asked, before then, to approve a White Paper setting out the principal terms for entry that may have been negotiated by the end of this month, a final act of ratification would still be needed. In these circumstances, Mr Heath will try to reassure critics of an early decision on the White Paper by promising them months more time to discuss the issues before any final act goes to the vote.

This might relax tension a little, but there will still be those who want to defer as long as possible any decision to approve the White Paper. If the final instrument were rejected, an earlier, favourable vote on the White Paper would not of course permit entry.

The main point still to be settled by Mr Heath and his colleagues is the timing of a vote on the White Paper itself, whether before or after the summer recess. Mr Heath will not be able to give in his statement the date for the publication of the White Paper.

Ministers hope that the main negotiations will be over on June 22, but minor matters, as the Government sees them, will remain for settlement in the autumn. Subject to this uncertainty about the date of the White Paper, Mr Heath should be able to tell the House when Parliament will be asked to approve it. The odds yesterday seemed to be in favour of a decision after the recess.

Leaflets and pamphlets will continue to pour from the COI, the Conservative Central Office, and from the pro- and anti-European camps; and speeches will be made. But if the final decision is not to be taken until December or January, the party conference will be heard on Europe at full blast well before the last lead is done.

Fishermen split, page 4. Fears taken to heart; referendum move; question on islands, page 7. Hella Pick, page 11. How the EEC rescue could help Britain, page 14.

## Maples sale starts tomorrow

Tottenham Court Road London  
and at Basingstoke • Birmingham  
Bournemouth • Bristol  
Guildford • Hove • Leicester  
Richmond • Woking

Mark Rowe • Exeter  
Fraser's • Ipswich  
Maple Denby & Spinks  
Harrogate • Leeds  
Ray & Miles • Liverpool  
Henry Barker Smart & Brown  
Nottingham  
Shepherd & Hedger Maple  
Salisbury • Southampton  
Robsons • Newcastle-upon-Tyne

## Everything reduced!



# Espionage act invoked against newspaper in Vietnam secrets case

From RICHARD SCOTT: Washington, June 15

The Nixon Administration has taken exceptional measures to try to prevent the "New York Times" from publishing any more of the official documents contained in a massive Pentagon study of US involvement in the Vietnam war.

## Neo-Fascist gnat turns monster

From GEORGE ARMSTRONG: Rome, June 15

Just as Italy became an industrial power without having gone through an industrial revolution, if last weekend's balloting by 20 per cent of the electorate can be read as a sign of the future, Italy is on the verge of a counter-revolution without ever having had the political evolution which the Centre-Left promised.

The neo-Fascist party, the MSI, once no bigger than a gnat on the horizon, underwent what must be recognised as a stupendous transformation into a jungle beast in Sicily, where a new Regional Assembly was chosen, the MSI jumped from 5 per cent of the vote to 16 per cent. It now is the leading party in Catania, and the second party in Palermo. It made comparable gains in other southern cities.

In the balloting for a new City Council in Rome, the party headed by the dapper Giorgio Almirante, will now occupy 13 of a total 80 seats, a net gain of six. The four Centre-Left parties, which have governed Rome for the past five years, have lost an additional seat, giving them 42. The spectre of Rome being without a majority coalition is, more distant, but not out of sight.

The small Republican Party, which now holds three seats in the council (a gain of two), already has withdrawn from Prime Minister Colombo's Centre-Left Cabinet. A Republican refusal to participate in the same coalition at the town hall would bring about the demise of the Centre-Left as administrators of Rome.

While it is never true that "as Rome goes, so goes the nation," the election results here, and elsewhere, may cause some turmoil within the Christian Democrat Party, the real losers. In Sicily, the Catholic party polled only 33 per cent of the votes, which means that it

claims, violates the provisions of the Espionage Law, Title 18, US Code, Section 79. This section states: "Whoever knowingly and willfully communicates, furnishes, transmits, or otherwise makes available to an unauthorized person, or publishes, or uses in any manner prejudicial to the safety or interest of the United States or for the benefit of any foreign Government to the detriment of

the United States any classified information... shall be fined not more than \$10,000 or imprisoned for not more than 10 years, or both."

Even the Pentagon admits that there is some ambiguity about this rather loosely written section. In particular, it is far from clear whether it applies only to an official who makes secret Government documents available to an unauthorized person, or equally to the recipient of such documents, if he in turn makes them public.

There is nothing comparable in American law to the British Official Secrets Act. And although the Nixon Administration has in the past, sought to persuade newspapers not to publish secret documents which have come into their hands by invoking this section of the espionage law, it has not until today seen fit to carry the matter to the courts.

Newspapers which retain correspondents in Washington, who cover the White House, State Department or Pentagon come, in fact, almost daily into possession of secret information passed to them confidentially by officials with the clear understanding that the information should be published discreetly—that is to say without attribution.

The national press is, therefore, almost daily liable to legal action under the espionage law. But, at least in recent years, the law has not been applied against them. They have come to regard it as placing no real inhibitions upon them. Presumably, the New York District Court will now have to make a formal ruling on whether or not this law does apply to the press as well as to government officials.

The Justice Department made a last attempt last night to persuade the "New York Times" to refrain from further publication of the Pentagon study on the ground that it would cause "irreparable injury to the defence interests of the United States, and to return the copy it had obtained, from a source still unknown."

The paper politely declined because it believed that publication was in the public interest. But it undertook to abide by a final decision of the court.

At a press conference here this morning, the Secretary of State, Mr William Rogers (himself a former Attorney-General), expressed the view that the law clearly provided that the Pentagon study should not have been published until the secret and top secret documents it contained had been officially "declassified."

He considered its publication "a very serious matter, not least because he feared foreign countries might be reluctant to deal confidentially with the US because they felt that their secret exchanges with Washington could easily see the light of day. Other Governments had already made representations to the State Department about the controversy, Mr Rogers said, adding that he had seen a copy of the 1967 report for the first time yesterday. He refused to pass judgment on its contents.

Publication of the study has hugely pleased Congressional critics of past US Vietnam policies. The Senate Majority Leader, Mr Mike Mansfield, said today that he was delighted by the publication, and was considering holding an open Senate hearing on the study's thousands of secret documents.

Israeli leaders see no prospect of progress towards agreement with Egypt—either on peace or on reopening the Suez Canal—until "September at the earliest." Senior officials were estimating this week that it will take that long for the United States to complete a reappraisal of its Middle Eastern policy which is already under way.

The reappraisal will be watched by both sides, each hoping it will go the "right" way. As they wait, neither will make a substantial move. The Israelis are fairly confident that it will go "their" way and that at the end of it, Egypt will have to choose between war and reopening the dialogue.

"As war will still be an unpromising option, there is a good chance that Sadat will then resume the dialogue on the opening of the Canal, an official close to the Prime Minister, Mrs Meir, told me. At that stage, the official hoped Sadat might be ready to discuss the reopening, "for its own sake" rather than as a first move in total Israeli evacuation of Sinai.

The existing Egyptian terms, transmitted to Mr Rogers in Paris last week, are now known to have been virtually the same as those given in Sadat's speeches. They are quite unacceptable to Israel. The Israelis will not modify their own terms, except during a dialogue "in which there is agreement on the aim of the operation," the official said. "Our terms are meant to be negotiable. Once a serious dialogue starts, a way could be found of enabling Sadat to demonstrate that he has not signed away the whole of Sinai."

"From Israel's essential conditions" there will be no movement: that no Egyptian troops will cross; that the agreement must be separate from other issues and accompanied by a long-term ceasefire; and that there must be free navigation for all."

The official did not speculate on possible points of compromise, but I understand these might include the passage of Israeli cargoes without Israeli flags; a "symbolic" Egyptian presence on the Canal's east bank; and a firmer Israeli commitment to eventual withdrawal from the bulk (as distinct from the whole) of Sinai and the west bank.

Behind these official attitudes there is sharp criticism of the State Department, which is felt to have maladroitnessly sabotaged its own peace initiatives. "It spoiled the Jarring mission by getting Jarring to ask us for a prior commitment to total withdrawal," said one official. "Now it has spoiled the Canal business by over committing itself to Egypt, thus inviting intransigence."

Confirmation of this was seen in the recent admission by Mr Riaz, the Egyptian Foreign Minister, that the Americans had not asked Egypt for any substantial modifications of its position. "This encourages both the Egyptians and the Russians to step up their demands, and their arms, and their threats," an official said.

Washington is now seen as having entered a transition period, during which the State Department is trying to "cover up" the spectacular failure of

its efforts to win the Egyptians around. But eventually the administration will have to take stock of the situation created by the Cairo-Moscow treaty—"which turned a love affair into a marriage," as one official put it. He added that "While Egypt may not take such treaties lightly, the Soviet Union most certainly does—and there will be no question of unilateral divorce."

The reappraisal the Israelis expect will be profound and far-reaching—perhaps resulting in the "burying" of the 1968 "Rogers plan" for an almost complete Israeli withdrawal. It is being whispered here that the plan was cynically concocted by the Russians and "sold" to a naive and unsuspecting Rogers as a way of creating common ground between Moscow and Washington. The plan is believed here to be under growing fire in Washington, because it commits America to an unenforceable policy, and in effect makes serious negotiations between Israel and the Arabs more remote.

The Israelis have gone as far as to hint to Washington that they want it to abandon its role of mediator in the Middle East conflict. They would like Mr Rogers to propose, as a new initiative, a ceasefire "for five or six years," during which talks can begin. "It is high time for the world to realise that a Middle East settlement cannot be gained by a slick

formula: it will take years of bargaining," an official said. But obviously, the essential reappraisal which the Israelis are hoping for is American acceptance that the borders of June 4, 1967, will have to be "significantly, but not substantially" modified (as one official put it). This, of course, is a reappraisal the Arabs are also expected to make, sooner or later. The Israelis continue to hope that the "step forward" Sadat has already taken in which he accepted the principle of a peace agreement will eventually be followed by others. Alarms about forthcoming American pressure on Israel are being sounded in newspapers and by politicians.

But senior officials do not take it very seriously. "They simply cannot afford not to supply us with arms to redress the balance of power," said one. "Any way, they know that pressure only makes us more stubborn. And even if it worked and we were forced to withdraw, it would be seen by the whole world as a victory for Russia—and a defeat for America."

Nor do the Israelis appear unduly worried by the prospect of further Russian encroachment during an indefinite period of "no war, no peace." Arab affairs experts claim that Lebanon are all "frightened" by the implications of the Cairo-Moscow treaty: so, to a lesser extent, is Iraq, as well as

Turkey and Iran. Only Syria is seen as a possible—though not probable—candidate for another friendship treaty. And as if to underline Syrian vulnerability at this point, the Israeli Army is preparing to hold manoeuvres in the north on Thursday.

A glimpse of a new threat appeared in last week's guerrilla attack on an Israeli-bound oil tanker in the Red Sea. But there is confidence that this, too, can be contained and it is felt that maritime guerrillas are more dependent than airship hijackers on the active support of Governments—and most Arab states have shipping routes which are as vulnerable as Israel. An official reminded me that a good deal of Arab shipping passes "within a pistol shot" of our boys at Sharm el-Sheikh.

Perhaps the profoundest source of Israeli confidence is the conviction that time is on their side. "If the arms supplied to both sides are equal, the Russians must know that there is a difference in arm given to Arabs and arms given to Israelis," said an official. As long as there is no dialogue with the Arabs, the Israelis will continue to be grateful to consolidate the occupation of Arab lands. Strategic settlements will be strengthened, and more are being planned. A new town will soon be built at Sharm el-Sheikh. And in East Jerusalem and Hebron, Israeli settlements are making daily and visible progress.

# Israel seeks an end to US mediation in Middle East

From WALTER SCHWARZ: Jerusalem, June 15

Israel leaders see no prospect of progress towards agreement with Egypt—either on peace or on reopening the Suez Canal—until "September at the earliest." Senior officials were estimating this week that it will take that long for the United States to complete a reappraisal of its Middle Eastern policy which is already under way.

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Perhaps the profoundest source of Israeli confidence is the conviction that time is on their side. "If the arms supplied to both sides are equal, the Russians must know that there is a difference in arm given to Arabs and arms given to Israelis," said an official. As long as there is no dialogue with the Arabs, the Israelis will continue to be grateful to consolidate the occupation of Arab lands. Strategic settlements will be strengthened, and more are being planned. A new town will soon be built at Sharm el-Sheikh. And in East Jerusalem and Hebron, Israeli settlements are making daily and visible progress.

# Rogers sees accord in Mideast by 1972

From our Correspondent: Washington, June 15

Mr William Rogers, the Secretary of State, told a press conference today that the United States stood pat on President Nixon's refusal to set a date for the completion of American withdrawal. (The Senate votes tomorrow on the Hatfield-McGovern amendment, calling for complete withdrawal by the end of this year. Although it is unlikely to muster a majority of the votes, support for it is considerable.)

Mr Rogers also criticised former Defence Secretary Clark Clifford for failing to give the Administration any information in support of his contention that Hanoi would release American prisoners of war 30 days after Washington announced a decision to complete withdrawal by December 31.

He contended that the chief American negotiator in Paris, Ambassador David Bruce, had transmitted information which showed that Mr Clifford's claim was groundless. Nevertheless, the State Department official primarily concerned with Viet-

nam is to meet Mr Clifford tomorrow. Mr Rogers said that no final withdrawal date would be announced until it would be in the interest of the United States. Today it was not the return of all American prisoners would first have to be assured; which was not now the case.

He claimed that Hanoi was using the prisoners for political ransom purposes. "We can't abandon our national objective in order to pay ransom," he said emphatically.

Mr Rogers disclosed that instructions had been sent to US officials in Saigon which were designed to ensure that the South Vietnamese, starting this summer and autumn, would be fair and honest, and that the US will remain neutral as between the various candidates. He also said that he would be meeting Mr Dobrynin, the Soviet Ambassador here, later this week to try to find out if the Russians had decided to stop their support for the Vietcong, and to try to find out if the Russians had decided to stop their support for the Vietcong, and to try to find out if the Russians had decided to stop their support for the Vietcong.

At the United Nations, US Thant today deplored the attack as "inadmissible" and called for its condemnation by the international community.

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San'aa also has strong ties with Egypt, whose troops fought on its soil against the royalists. Political observers say that if Cairo suggested the guerrilla raiders should be detained, Yemen would be likely to comply.

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was on an island, 90 miles north of the Bab al Mandab straits where the attack took place. But they were hurried into landing in the Yemen Republic north of its major port Hodeida.

The spokesman called on the Government in San'aa to release the four guerrillas. "The Yemeni Government will treat this issue according to its national obligations," he said.

Yemen has not been directly involved in the Arab-Israeli conflict but Government leaders have often voiced support for the Palestinian guerrilla movement.

The country recently emerged from a nine-year civil

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The country recently emerged from a nine-year civil

# Honecker denounces Bonn's 'device'

By Jonathan Steele

Herr Erich Honecker, the new East German leader, accused the West German Government yesterday of refusing to give up "its destructive attitude" to a settlement between the two states.

Speaking in front of Mr Brezhnev and the leaders of all the Warsaw Pact countries except President Ceausescu of Romania, Herr Honecker told the opening session of his party's eighth congress in Berlin that Bonn's formula of special "intra-German relations" was only a device to avoid recognising the German Democratic Republic.

The congress opened to one major surprise when Herr Ulbricht, who retired from the post of first secretary last month on the grounds of old age, failed to turn up. The former party leader, who is 77, had been due to make a short introductory speech yesterday.

Although Herr Honecker's speech yesterday contained few novelties, it confirmed the toughening in East German policy towards Bonn that became noticeable last December. At that time, Herr Honecker said that "between German Democratic Republic and the Imperialist German Federal Republic, an objective process of demarcation and not an approach is taking place."

This "demarcation," otherwise called the total separation of the two states from each other, has been repeatedly stressed since. It emphasises that now more than ever East German policy is set on full international recognition.

He considered its publication "a very serious matter, not least because he feared foreign countries might be reluctant to deal confidentially with the US because they felt that their secret exchanges with Washington could easily see the light of day. Other Governments had already made representations to the State Department about the controversy, Mr Rogers said, adding that he had seen a copy of the 1967 report for the first time yesterday. He refused to pass judgment on its contents.

Publication of the study has hugely pleased Congressional critics of past US Vietnam policies. The Senate Majority Leader, Mr Mike Mansfield, said today that he was delighted by the publication, and was considering holding an open Senate hearing on the study's thousands of secret documents.

Do. 5 15 Bright's Boffins. 5 30 Crossroads. 7 0 Odd Couple. 7 30 Coronation Street. 8 00 Mannix. 8 15 Line. 9 0 Party Political Broadcast: Labour. 10 10 News. 10 40 Never Mind the Quality, Feel the Width. 11 15 Professional Wrestling. 11 40 Your Music at Night.

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Mr Jackson  
£20,000  
reward  
for envoy

FRIENDS of kidnapped Geoffrey Jackson and three Uruguayan nationals have offered a 50,000-dollar (£20,000) reward for information leading to their release. The Interior Ministry announced in Montevideo yesterday.

The spokesman who made the offer did not identify those who put up the reward for the release of Mr Jackson, who has been held by Tupamaros urban guerrillas since January 8.

Shortly after the Ambassador was captured as he was on his way to the embassy in Montevideo, a group of friends of Mr Jackson offered the equivalent of £16,000 for his release.

In an interview issued in Havana on April 2 by the Cuba news agency, Mr Jackson said he was detained in a small cell with no windows and had lost all notion of time.

Mr Jackson was quoted as saying: "I am suspended in time and space. I have not got the least idea of the hour or the day. I wake up, eat, read, sleep again, it's like a routine I follow."

WEST & WALES (HTV)—11 0 a.m.-3 0 p.m. Schools. 3 30 Tomorrow's Horoscope. 3 45 Women Today. 4 00 Place a Plump. 4 15 Plump's Friends. 4 30 Anything You Can Do. 5 15 Bright's Boffins. 5 30 News. 6 0 Westward Di. 6 25 Crossroads. 7 0 Treasure Hunt. 7 30 Coronation Street. 8 0 It Takes a Thief. 9 0 Nine. 9 10 Life in France. 10 10 News. 10 40 Weather. 10 42 Never Mind the Quality, Feel the Width. 11 15 Wrestling. 11 35 Epilogue. News. French.

RTV West (as above except).—4 7-9 p.m. Report West. 6 1-6 35 Report West.

RTV Wales—6 14-18 p.m. Y Dydd.

RTV Cymru/Wales—6 14-18 p.m. Y Dydd.

WESTWARD.—11 0 a.m.-3 0 p.m. Schools. 3 30 Westward News. 4 0 Winter of Enchantment. 4 10 Gus Honeybun. 4 20 Tea Break. 4 35 Anything You Can Do. 5 15 Bright's Boffins. 5 30 News. 6 0 Westward Di. 6 25 Crossroads. 7 0 Treasure Hunt. 7 30 Coronation Street. 8 0 It Takes a Thief. 9 0 Nine. 9 10 Life in France. 10 10 News. 10 40 Weather. 10 42 Never Mind the Quality, Feel the Width. 11 15 Wrestling. 11 44 Faith for Life.

VORESHIRE.—11 0 a.m.-3 0 p.m. Schools. 3 30 Tomorrow's Horoscope. 3 45 Women Today. 4 00 Place a Plump. 4 15 Plump's Friends. 4 30 Anything You Can Do. 5 15 Bright's Boffins. 5 30 News. 6 0 Voreshire Di. 6 25 Crossroads. 7 0 Treasure Hunt. 7 30 Coronation Street. 8 0 It Takes a Thief. 9 0 Nine. 9 10 Life in France. 10 10 News. 10 40 Weather. 10 42 Never Mind the Quality, Feel the Width. 11 15 Wrestling. 11 45 Weather. It's All Yours. Close.

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## Greek challenge on funds

Athens, June 15  
An Athens pro-Government newspaper today challenged the president of the European Action Committee on Greece to reveal the financial sources of the organisation.

"Eleftheros Kosmos" (Free World), which often reflects the views of the Premier, Mr George Papadopoulos, also asked the president of the committee, Sir Hugh Greene, former director-general of the BBC, whether the formation of the organisation was the result of pressure by opponents of the Athens regime.

Earlier this month, announcing the formation of the body as an international pressure group against Greece's army-backed Government, Sir Hugh had said the Greek regime could not last without US support.

Four former Greek political leaders, representing two of the country's major parties in the pre-revolution period, welcomed the formation of the body saying it would strengthen their struggle for the return of democracy.

"Eleftheros Kosmos" claimed today that the decision to form the action committee and the setting of its objectives had been decided last January in the presence of the Communist resistance leader Nikos Theodorakis, the self-exiled Greek composer.

— Reuter.

"The Great Liberator"—the statue in Buenos Aires to General Jose de San Martin who fought Argentina's wars of independence. The country's present leader, General Lanusse, is now in a battle against economic disorder

## Back-to-the-barracks route to a new mandate

From LEWIS DIUGUID: Buenos Aires, June 15

State for Energy, one of his supporters. They balked, issues were never very clearly defined, and there were allegations of irregular short-circuiting of the chain of command to Lanusse. Oil and nationalism are always a volatile mixture in Argentina, and sides were forming fast, with all eyes on the President.

Lanusse apparently defused it by firing the bally subordinates and the Public Works Minister in the bargain. As an added touch, the President named General Jorge Rauli Carcano as provisional administrator of the Government oil company. He is known for alleged "Peruvian" tendencies, that is, as an advocate of socialist nationalist development under military rule.

The "Peruvian" faction has consistently militated against any role here for foreign oil companies and General Carcano's appointment was interpreted as a move to placate the group and perhaps even disarm it by assigning it the difficult task of making the oil company pay.

Overall economic policy is not susceptible to such manipulation. An official report found that prices rose 3 per cent in the year ending March 31, while the average worker's real wage

dropped 12 per cent, in spite of massive rises.

Foreign exchange reserves have dropped, and in spite of "crawling peg" devaluations of the peso at a running pace, the currency is discounted by over 20 per cent in the thriving black market.

Beef exports have resumed, though not yet at past levels. The Swift Company of Argentina is exporting again. It is now able to buy steers because the former Economy Minister, Aldo Ferrer, enforced limitation of slaughter for domestic consumption.

Most of the country's other mounting economic problems seem to require action almost as unpopular as rationing of beef consumption. Though Argentina relies heavily on beef exports, the popular short-term decision would obviously be to lift the alternate-week suspension of beef sales.

Lanusse has indicated so far that he will seek to avoid major economic changes while pursuing the political preparation for elections. Senator Ferrer's nationalist and apparently inflationary policies alienated so many business interests that he had to be removed from office.

Ferrer was the fifth Economy Minister since the military takeover, and, it seems, the last.

Argentina is second only to Brazil in size and population among South American countries, and it is first in most indices of development. But class divisions, especially since the ousting of the populist dictator, Juan Peron, in 1955, have contributed to political instability. Economic slowdown has followed.

The military seized power in 1966 to set the country right, they said. Their more immediate aim was to prevent a Peronist victory in the elections. A measure of the General's frustration in his self-imposed task is that Lanusse—who was gaoled when Peron was President—has now indicated the 75-year-old exile could return to take part in the democratic revival if Peron were so inclined. Many doubt he is.

General Lanusse, 52, is accused by several old comrades-in-arms of abandoning the defence of the country in the face of what they see as the threat of the Peronists' return to power. But the President appears to have concluded that the only hope of uniting the country behind his Government is to allow all interests at least the possibility of winning elections, which, it has promised, will take place by 1973 at the latest.

If this interpretation is correct, he is willing to gamble the possibility of a Peronist

winning the probability of a winner more acceptable to the traditional ruling class.

Should General Lanusse bring about the return to a multiparty system and Parliament, keep the economy afloat, and fully use the political advantages that incumbency provides, the winner of that vote might be Lanusse himself. No more likely candidate has emerged.

The General was known in the ranks more for his commanding presence than intellectual agility. But since he ousted General Roberto Levingston last March, Lanusse has impressed otherwise sceptical observers with his handling of power.

Among his classmates at the military academy, Lanusse was known as "the Doberman Pinscher." "He refuses to recognise his friends," was the explanation one class associate offered for the nickname.

This inaccessibility is not exactly characteristic of Argentine politicians here, but Lanusse appears to have made use of it in several critical decisions recently, including a scandal in the labyrinth of Government industry.

The Public Works Minister had asked the administrator of the state oil company, a highly nationalistic colonel, to resign, along with the Secretary of



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## One of the things that keeps TWA one step ahead.

## 1972 Churches blame Vorster for 'grievous harm'

From our Correspondent, Geneva, June 15

The gulf between the World Council of Churches and South Africa deepened today. Mr Vorster's decision not to change his "unacceptable" conditions for the visit of a multiracial WCC group has put an end to the possibility of compromise.

The South African Prime Minister made his decision in spite of a last appeal suggesting that his ruling would "only bring grievous harm to our country." The warning was given by the nine-member South African Council of Churches. It was conveyed in a letter from the Rev Alex Boraine, the South African organiser of the meeting, which was made public today.

The original dates for the mission which included seven non-whites was July 26-31. But the Government in South Africa decided they could not leave the Johannesburg Airport hotel, that the delegation should be smaller and that the talk should be limited to the touchy subject of WCC aid to "liberation movements" or "terrorists."

Mr Boraine's letter to Mr Vorster said, "You departed from your original agreement. I must point out that our meeting with the WCC is not a meeting between people in opposite camps but between Christian leaders who belong to the worldwide family of Christ, who share concern over the problem of racism but who differ on the method whereby this problem can be faced and overcome."

"I would also respectfully point out that at no time were the Church leaders aware that

## Marshal's message indicates return to normalcy in China

Hongkong, June 15

The dispatch of a message to North Vietnam signed by a Chinese Army marshal who was criticised during the cultural revolution is being viewed here as new proof of a return to political normalcy in China.

The man is Marshal Chu Teh, aged 86, who was accused by Red Guards in 1967 of trying to turn the armed forces against Chairman Mao Tse-tung. With Premier Chou En-lai and Vice-President Tung P'ing-wu, he signed a congratulatory message to the newly re-elected leaders of North Vietnam. The signal actions were held at the end of last week.

The marshal's title was given as chairman of the standing committee of the National People's Congress. It was believed to be the first time since the cultural revolution that his signature had been affixed to an important State message, although he has appeared at several public functions in Peking.

Marshal Chu Teh's return to the political limelight followed the reappearance in Peking of two key Chinese officials absent for some time from the public eye. They are Kang Sheng, a member of the Communist Party Politburo standing committee, and Hsieh Fuchih, Deputy Premier, Public Security Minister, and chairman of the Peking Revolutionary Committee.

The two accompanied Chair-

man Mao and Premier Chou in talks with the visiting Rumanian President, Nicolae Ceausescu, in Peking two weeks ago. Their re-emergence was seen here as an attempt by Peking to show that political stability has returned to China after the cultural revolution.

The sorting of loose ends in the political picture is deemed essential because of forthcoming celebrations marking the fifth anniversary of the Chinese Communist Party on July 1.

Observers said the use of Marshal Chu Teh's official title could also mean that preparations are well advanced for the long-awaited National People's Congress, China's Parliament and constituent assembly.

Peking announced last September that the congress, which has not met since 1964, would be convened "at an appropriate time." Its main task is to rewrite the constitution and appoint a successor to the Head of State, Liu Shao Chi, who was deposed during the cultural revolution.

Marshal Chu Teh has been Chairman Mao's comrade in arms for nearly four decades. In the 1930s, Marshal Chu Teh, as commander-in-chief, and Chairman Mao, as political commissar, led the Chinese Red Army on the epic "long march" to North-west China—regarded as one of the great exploits of world military history. — Reuter.







## HOME NEWS

# Man serving life sentence 'is innocent'

Michael Luvaglio, who is serving a life sentence for the murder of fruit-machine collector Angus Sibbet, was yesterday described as "a mild, softly-spoken religious man of 33."

Mr David Napley, a London solicitor who handled Luvaglio's appeal, says in the "Law Society Gazette" that Luvaglio is innocent. Luvaglio and his co-defendant Dennis Stafford were convicted of the murder at Durham Assizes in March, 1967.

## Grub-up grant to growers

By our Agriculture Correspondent

In an effort to keep up the quality and price of home-grown apples and pears, the Government is to pay a grant to fruit growers if they get rid of old and uneconomical orchards. The Government expects about 15,000 acres of orchards to be grubbed up, with grant of about £1,250,000. Most of the old orchards, among the total orchard acreage of 113,000 in England and Wales, are in the Midlands.

Growers will get 13p for trees of three to five inches diameter and up to £1.35 for trees of 12 inches or more in diameter. One condition is that the trees should not be replaced within five years.

"The need for a grant at this level reflects the lack of commercial incentives to grub up old orchards," the Minister of Agriculture, Mr James Prior, said in the Commons yesterday. "Mediocre fruit from these barely viable orchards tends to disrupt the market for good quality fruit."

British growers are anticipating large imports of cheap French apples and Italian pears if Britain joins the EEC. There has been serious overproduction of apples and pears within the six for several years.

## Captain put on trial

Service proceedings against an American Air Force officer alleged to have taken part in an anti-Vietnam war demonstration at Whitsun were adjourned until Friday at the USAF base at Lakenheath, Suffolk, yesterday.

Documents in the case against Captain Thomas Culver (32), a lawyer at Lakenheath, will then be available to the court, which will decide whether a case has been made out for a court-martial.

He is the first American to be accused in Britain under US regulations which forbid servicemen from taking part in demonstrations overseas.

Witnesses for the prosecution have already given evidence on another charge against the captain of soliciting people at the base to attend the demonstration, held outside the American Embassy in Grosvenor Square.

## Agatha Christie breaks a leg

Dame Agatha Christie, aged 80, the crime novelist and dramatist, has broken a leg in a fall at her home, Winterbrook House, Wallingford, Berkshire, and is in the Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre at Oxford, where her condition is described as fair.

## New concept of planning

We still lack the will to act as good housekeepers of our environment, the chief planner of the Department of the Environment, Dr Wilfred Burns, said yesterday.

"We are too bound up with our bigger and more glamorous projects," he said. "If every time we have a job to do, however small it is, we approach it as something that has an impact on our environment, I believe we would immediately begin to see the difference."

"If, in addition, people everywhere began to think of the environment as a room that they are privileged to use for a short while, we would see even more difference. If, on top of that, people felt they had some responsibility for the environment, as housewives for their best room, the effect would be enormous."

Dr Burns, who was addressing the conference of the Municipal Engineers at Bournemouth, added, "I believe that people are gradually beginning to see things this way. But if they were becoming more conscious of the environment, he said, it is true, but he must use his

## Yanks come home

By our Correspondent

For five dollars an American tourist can buy an introduction to a Welsh family of his choice this summer—that is if the family can be persuaded to take part in the Wales Tourist Board scheme.

So far the selection includes a member of the Rhos Llanerchog, Male Voice Choir, an Oswestry farming family, and a Welsh-speaking sailor.

"It could be that Welsh people are a little shy at offering this type of service," said Mr T. Mervyn Jones, chairman of the board, which is trying to increase the 188,000 Americans who visited the principality last year. "But we are hoping that many more families will get in touch with us as soon as possible."

If they do it will hardly be the financial aspect which attracts them. Although the \$5 or \$2 each visitor pays will be given to the host family they are expected to provide a main meal, a trip to some local place of interest, and any other necessary hospitality.

The "meet the people" programme is part of a long-term plan to woo Americans to Wales. In 1976 the board will launch a "Come Visit the Land of Your Fathers" campaign to mark the bicentenary of the American Declaration of Independence: 18 of whose 56 signatories were of direct Welsh descent, including, so the board claims, President Jefferson himself.

Was the board likely to be caught up in the match-making business if an American lady requested a handsome six foot, single Welshman? Mr Mervyn Jones takes a philosophical view: "Although we are not really providing introductions on this basis, no doubt we could oblige if such a request were made."

## Anxiety stilled in explosives valley

The former Secretary for Wales, Mr George Thomas, said yesterday that the people of Tanygristau, in the valley below the Blaenau Ffestiniog power station, Merioneth, need have no anxiety about the danger from 5,000 tons of explosives stored in the disused Croesor quarry in the adjoining valley.

Mr Thomas said he had been "most reassured" at a meeting with Mr Richard Sharples, Minister of State at the Home Office, which ordered the power station to be closed last week—for what looks like being a period of months—while the explosives are moved by the owners, ICI.

Another Labour MP, Mr Tom Ellis, of Wrexham, claimed on Monday that the closure of the power station was "absurd," that there was almost no danger from the explosives magazine, and that the Home Office decision demonstrated a lack of consultation between the

## Two fought Weekend in bus fire

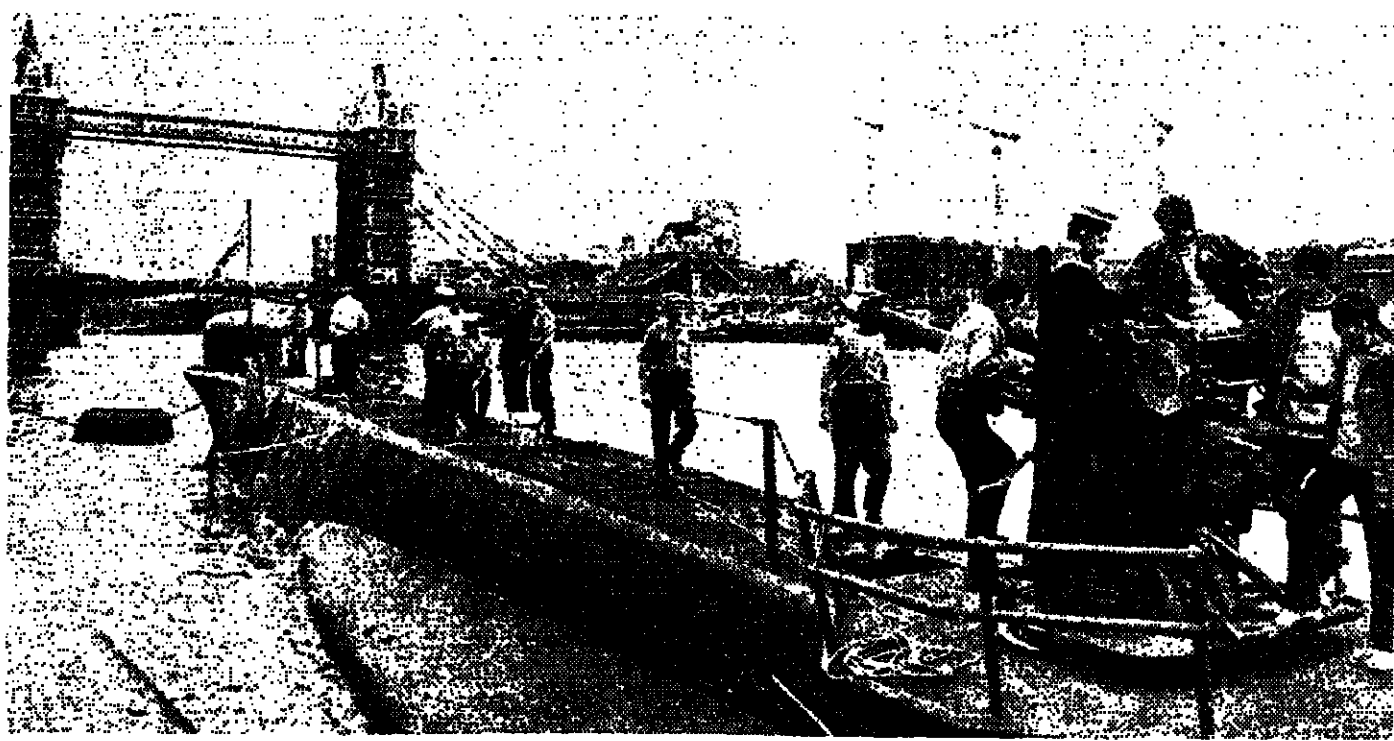
Two men had to fight a fire in a double-deck bus with soil because the vehicle's fire extinguisher was empty, a court at Wolverhampton was told yesterday. In four minutes, the bus was completely wrecked.

The Birmingham and Midland Motor Omnibus Company was fined £20 with £10 costs after admitting failing to carry an efficient fire extinguisher. Mr Michael Matthews, for the company, said safety checks were thorough, but "human fallibility" was to blame.

## Weekend in a lift

A man returned to work last Friday night to find a lift in the whole weekend trapped in a lift, the Old Street, London, court was told yesterday. A cleaner found him on Monday morning.

Arjan Manwani (18), a packer, of High Street, Bromley, knew how to operate the goods lift at a factory in Old Street, but he did not know about its alarm, it was stated. Manwani took the lift to the top floor only to find that the alarm secured the door. He was remanded on bail.



The Auriga berthed in the Pool of London yesterday—the first time for many years that a Royal Navy submarine has sailed so far up the Thames. On board the Auriga and a sister sub, the Alliance, were eight Sea Cadets who had stood watch on the trip from Devonport

## Man on murder charge 'tried to fix alibi'

Patrick Francis Keane, accused of the capital murder of a policeman during the execution of his duty on April 3, 1970, outside the Royal Bank of Ireland on Arran Quay, Dublin, has pleaded not guilty.

The charge is one which carries the death penalty in the Republic and the trial is expected to last eight days.

Mr Lovatt-Dolan told the jury that a massive manhunt was mounted after the murder. Keane was arrested in England on May 13 last year. He gave the name John Kelly. Before his arrest he wrote to Dublin newspapers denying he had any part in the murder.

Mr Lovatt-Dolan said police went to the bank on Arran Quay when a special alarm was set off after the bank's telephone line was cut. In the squad car were three policemen, including Fallon.

Fallon and another policeman, Paul Firth, went towards the bank and the doors burst open and three masked men in green battledress jackets ran down the steps. The raiders each fired a number of shots at point-blank range.

Mr Lovatt-Dolan said that Firth would identify Keane as being the first of the three men he saw leaving the bank.

During the raid, said counsel, the three men forced customers to face the wall and employees to lie on the floor while they were covered by a man with a gun. Another scooped £3,270 in notes into a holdall.

Intensive security precautions were in force around the court when the trial began. Police blocked off the roadway and diverted traffic for more than an hour before the accused was brought into court through a back door.

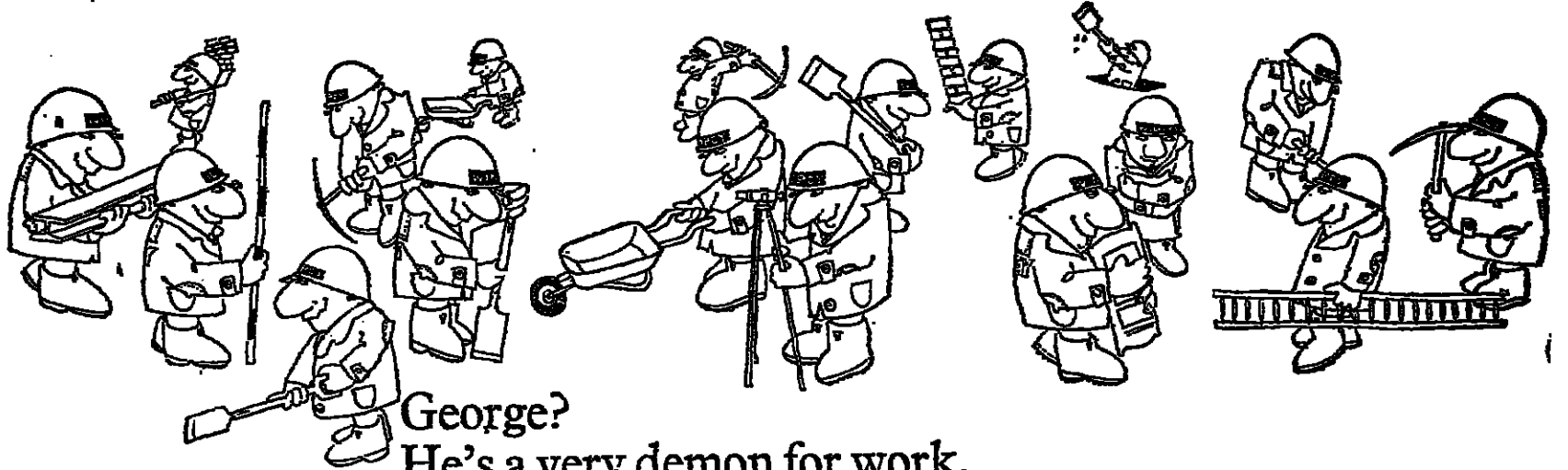
## Stewart given new seat

Mr Michael Stewart, MP for Fulham and the former Foreign Secretary, has been selected as prospective parliamentary Labour candidate for the new constituency of Hammersmith (Fulham). He was chosen in preference to Mr Ivor Richard, MP for Barons Court, the other constituency absorbed into the new one.

The selection conference made the decision by a majority of four to one. The hope was expressed that Mr Richard would soon find another constituency.

Mr Leslie Hilliard, agent for the new constituency, said yesterday: "There was a lot of feeling among our members that it was a pity they had to choose between two people both of whom are well liked locally."

# Indefatigable George



George?

He's a very demon for work.

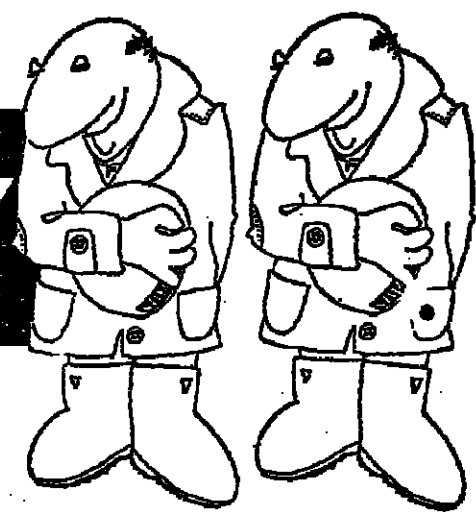
The Wimpey world-wide turnover exceeds £225,000,000. And of this, no less than £30,000,000 is made up of factories, warehouses and distribution centres built in the U.K. alone.

Thir-ty mil-lion pounds. Whew!

Mind you, that's the sum of many contracts. Some as big as you'd expect with Wimpey...but a lot of others in the £75,000 and upwards range.

That means a lot of contented customers. No wonder George is beside himself with delight.

# WIMPEY





# Violent crimes up 10 per cent last year

By PETER HARVEY

The number of violent crimes in England and Wales rose by almost 10 per cent last year. A total of 33,800 people were injured because of criminal action during 1970—3,000 more than during the previous year.

This grim picture is given in the annual report of Mr John McKay, Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Constabulary, published yesterday. Mr McKay warns that we must become aware of the extent to which crime and violence and other anti-social behaviour can endanger the quality of the life of the nation. "We should be as concerned at this as we are with environmental pollution," he says.

The report says that the overall crime rate was reduced for the second year in succession: from 8.5 per cent in 1968 to 6.1 per cent in 1969, and 5.3 per cent in 1970. Mr McKay adds: "One hesitates to forecast that this might be an indication that we are approaching a period when the volume of reported crime will tend to level off."

Stressing the increase of offences against the person, Mr McKay says that some consolation comes from the fact that the detection rate for crimes of violence and robbery also rose—by 10 per cent and 9 per cent respectively.

The report, which covers England and Wales except the Metropolitan Police area, records an upward movement in crime from 1,167,207 in 1968 to 1,234,338 in 1970. The increase was by about 3 per cent.

Much of this crime was of a "petty and irritating but preventable character," and there were 200,000 cases of taking and theft of, and from, cars.

"Whatever efforts police put into the field of prevention and detection, they cannot hope to alter this general upward trend in crime so long as society continues to regard such a trend as acceptable," Mr McKay says.

The chief inspector calls on schools to teach citizenship to make children aware of their responsibilities towards society.

The police officer depended for his success—apart from his professional expertise—on the existence of police confidence in public support and on public trust. And yet the policeman's attitude could easily be misunderstood "because they are under a duty to enforce legislation restricting the social behaviour of individuals, such as the laws relating to drinking, drugs, sex and gambling."

Mr McKay would also like to see police departments able to recruit more coloured officers—relations with immigrants lay in an area "where difficulties and suspicions are aggravated by differences of language, social customs, and outlook." Yet at the end of 1970, there were only 19 coloured officers, including one woman, serving in 15 provincial forces.

On drugs the report shows that the number of known addicts has decreased but "this should not be taken to mean that the drug problem is becoming any less serious."

The reduction in the number of addicts appeared to be due to the efforts of the special clinics set up to deal with addiction in severely reducing the amounts of heroin being prescribed.

In almost every area there had been a marked increase in the use of LSD and there was evidence that the practice of exchanging LSD for cannabis was becoming more common. (Report of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Constabulary for 1970. House of Commons paper 417. HMSO, price 70p)

## Bridge Take the best chance

By RIXI MARKUS

The first week at the Deauville Bridge Festival is primarily a social event. Guests are specially invited and everyone stays at the Hotel du Golf. It is rather like a charming house party, and the bridge itself is not taken too seriously. Nevertheless, everybody is interested in a well-played hand, such as the one below which Prince Lichtenstein, the president of the Austrian Bridge Federation, played in 4S.

North  
A, Q, 7, 5  
K, 8, 7, 6  
9, 5, 4, 3  
10

West  
A, J, 2  
Q, 8, 7  
A, Q, 8, 6

East  
K, 10, 8  
Q, 9, 4  
K, Q, J  
K, 7, 2

Dummy's ace of trumps won the trick. Prince Lichtenstein now discarded a heart on the 9 of diamonds and played king and another heart, ruffing in hand with his last trump. A club was given up to the defenders but nothing could now stop 10 tricks. Declarer lost only the ace of diamonds, the ace of hearts, and a club trick.

In the other room, on the same lead, declarer made the mistake of leading a club from dummy at the second trick. When East got in with the ace of diamonds he forced dummy with a club and declarer found himself unable to ruff two clubs, draw trumps, make the long diamond, and get out the dummy.

He cashed the queen and jack.

© Rixi Markus 1971



J. B. Priestley and his wife, Jacquetta Hawkes, with David Nathan at Foyle's literary luncheon held in London yesterday to mark the publication of Mr Nathan's book, "The Laughter Makers" (Dennis Barker writes page 11)

## Roman town faces up to this century's challenge

By our own Reporter

Alcester, the Shakespeare-country town which has shrunk so much in importance since Roman times that even the Roman ruins will hardly look at it, may be on its way to a practical face-lift at last. Alcester Civic Society has produced a study of the town which the local council is now considering and which Warwick County Council regards with some favour.

The essence of Alcester's problems is that its streets are narrow and congested and its medieval buildings are picturesque but unattractive to motorised shoppers. With only two exceptions, its High Street has been ignored by the multiple stores. As long as 40 years ago, the turnover per head of population was 40 per cent below the average for the surrounding West Midlands as a whole, while Stratford-upon-Avon and Evesham, two towns with a similar layout, were both over 70 per cent above.

The fact that Alcester is a conservation area has meant in practice that the town has largely stagnated because no one has been interested enough to develop within the existing limitations. The Civic Society's document: "A Study in Civic Action," says: "The exciting challenge is to conserve Alcester as a living and prosperous entity. But the result must be prosperity. Merely to preserve the town as a museum piece is to destroy it by slow death."

The enclosed space and small scale of the town is the crux of the matter, as the society sees it. "The motor car and pedestrian fight for space on the street; the car gives up the struggle and goes elsewhere, to seek the wider variety and attractions of the supermarket and to make an outing of the weekend shopping."

As one walks the wanky quiet streets of Alcester, with the half-timbered buildings, the white stucco and the cars crowded on to the carriage-way of the High Street, one can see the justification for the society's fears about the future of trading in the town. "The trader in his converted shop fights for space to display and sell his wares. Less prosperous, he is less inclined to keep his frontage in attractive order."

Yes, and the shops lying empty for long periods are all too obvious too. They are the negative side of Alcester's peaceful atmosphere, they give a rather ironical twist to the observation of the society that one of the charms of the town is that one is always walking out of a little alley into something unexpected.

The variety of Alcester is attractive, and it is very various indeed. Building materials and the methods of construction vary so sharply that almost no two buildings are alike. Chimneys differ in height and roof differ in pitch. "The psychological effect of walking from the High Street noise through a narrow chawery to burst out into the quiet backyards with

flowers, birds, and distant trees is dramatic and very valuable," says the society. (For the uninitiated, chaweries are narrow passages leading from the front doors of cottages to the actual entrances at the back.)

Again, there is the obverse side. The smallness of scale produces a feeling of tightness and enclosure—low eaves, tiny backyards, fences and overhangs. The feeling of tightness is perhaps better to contemplate occasionally than to deal with day in and day out; and only yards from the High Street there are sites which are virtually sterile when they could be making a major contribution to the town's prosperity.

The civic society has several proposals for improving the tourist attractiveness of Alcester without prejudicing its aesthetic appeal. The aim is to ensure that all visitors to Shakespeare country visit the town. Boundary signs and easily identifiable car parks must be provided, says the society. New news-type houses should be actively encouraged and pedestrian routes to connect to car parks—those "chaweries"—should be reopened. There should be a museum of Roman and medieval finds and plates on historic buildings.

The society's other suggestion carries with it an ominous warning that all may not be plain sailing, in spite of the society's initiative in drawing up detailed plans where no one else—not even the council—would. It suggests a facelift scheme—rather like the one it first suggested in 1963.

## Concorde 'could fry the earth'

By ANTHONY TUCKER, Science Correspondent

If Concorde or other SSTs fly, the earth will fry, according to Professor Harold Johnston, of the Department of Chemistry in the University of California.

In a scientific paper awaiting publication in the American journal "Science," but seized on by the anti-Concorde lobby in the Guardian and now by the anti-Concorde lobby in Britain, he calculates that the commercial operation of 500 SSTs would, within a year, result in a doubling of ultraviolet radiation reaching the surface of the earth.

Although the paper itself is concerned with calculations of the chemical kinetics of the upper atmosphere, such a change would result in the death of plant life over much of the earth and sea and massive damage in unprotected mammals.

The paper points to important catalytic processes that can lead to the destruction of the earth's protective layers of ozone, which have been left out of all previous discussions about the global effects of SSTs.

The ozone layer, in the lower atmosphere where the SSTs will fly, has two vital functions. First, by absorption, it protects the surface of the earth from lethal ultra-violet radiation; secondly, because of the layer's resulting warmth, it leads to a highly stable temperature inversion which envelops and limits climatic activity in our lower region. Except for the changes could be catastrophic. It is impossible to predict what the detailed effects of any depletion of ozone would be.

At present, the region is chemically stable. The processes resulting in the production of ozone and in its dissociation, both of which absorb potentially damaging radiation, are in equilibrium. One possibility of disruption through the introduction of water vapour from SST exhausts has already been considered and, although not dis-

## A second fine of £1,000

The master of a tanker from which spread a highly inflammable petroleum spirit leading to a "wall of fire" on the Manchester Ship Canal and the deaths of six people in the Partington Ferry disaster was again fined a maximum of £1,000 at Altrincham yesterday for allowing an oil mixture to be discharged into the canal.

After the disaster at Partington, John Fairclough (59) of Bewley Drive, Southdene, Kirby, Liverpool, master of the motor vessel Tacoma was fined £1,000 in September last year. At Altrincham Magistrates' Court yesterday, he denied a similar summons.

Mr Anthony Gowdridge, prosecuting for the Ship Canal Co., told the magistrates: "Fairclough was convicted on a similar summons in September. That was a serious matter when he was asked to give an undertaking to be on board the ship while it was being worked. He gave such an undertaking but was not on board the ship on this occasion."

But as a result of that case he was asked to give an undertaking to be on board the ship while it was being worked. He gave such an undertaking but was not on board the ship on this occasion.

turned into something of a social club as well. The mothers are delighted, because before this there was nowhere where young children could go to play, and because they meet each other for a cup of coffee and a chat. One

mother said she was particularly pleased the playground is in the school hall, because it has given her young daughter the idea of school before she starts to go herself.

The playground was thought up entirely by a group of girls in the fourth year, after they had been told that as their contribution to Buntingford Action for Social Help

officialdom that they really meant to do it, they advertised the group locally and among the parents they knew. Susan Smith, who is 15, was one of the original group, and still runs it. She and her friends decided they did not want to work in hospitals or with old people, but would concentrate on young children so that their mothers could go shopping.

PROJECT HELP

Ann Shearer

## Love letters from RAF man read to spy trial court

The secrets trial went into camera yesterday after the man who had a 10-year love affair with the wife of Nicholas Prager, accused of selling secrets to the Czechs, was questioned about letters he wrote to her.

An RAF technician, Francis Patient, became a friend of Prager when he visited RAF Finningley, near Doncaster, to prepare an instruction book on Blue Diver, code name for an anti-radar device fitted to V-bombers.

Prager (42), of Austen Drive, Bramley, Rotherham, is accused of selling the Blue Diver secrets. It is alleged he spied first as an RAF sergeant.

At Leeds Assizes yesterday Mr Patient denied that Prager's Czech-born wife Jana had tried to indoctrinate him with Communist views. "Her views were well to the left," he said.

He was shown a bundle of letters by Mr James Comyn, QC, for the defence, which he agreed he had written to Mrs Prager. One said: "I still have funny thoughts about you in my arms." Mr Patient was asked by Mr Comyn about a letter he wrote to Mrs Prager in May 1961, after he had signed a 12-year engagement with the RAF.

He was alleged to have written: "I am not particularly worried about the ties of the RAF so much now, in fact I know that if life in the RAF became unbearable, I would just buzz off." Asked by Mr Comyn what he meant by this, Mr Patient said: "I was probably feeling a bit down in the dumps. It was my way of saying if I didn't like the life I wouldn't stay."

It was not, he said, "a great plot to buzz off somewhere." Asked if he had planned to leave the country with Mrs Prager, he replied: "Not seriously, no. I may well have talked about travel."

In March, 1961, he is alleged to have written: "I must read the Prague NL tomorrow. One useful thing I have seen is the frequency of Radio Prague." Mr Patient agreed the initials NL could have stood for News Letter. Asked where he would be getting the Prague News Letter from, he said: "Probably from this British Soviet Friendship Society." Was he planning to listen in to Radio Prague? "I don't think so, no."

In another letter, Mr Patient was alleged to have said: "I do not want you to be unhappy. Don't worry, I shan't suddenly

appear in Whittington (the RAF base where she was living), only to leave after a short time. In my letters, I have written so that, if read by others, nothing can be held against you."

He is alleged to have written: "I didn't say of course I would go to Czechoslovakia in the summer." Mr Patient said this did not mean he would join Mrs Prager in Czechoslovakia. The letter, Mr Comyn said, ended: "All my love, Francis, with kisses."

Then followed the instruction "the fire now" which Mr Patient agreed meant Mrs Prager was to burn the letter.

In other letters, Mr Comyn went on, Mr Patient wrote to Mrs Prager about the political situation in Cuba, saying he wanted to get more information about Fidel Castro, and China.

Mr Patient said that they had contemplated marriage in 1958 or 1960. He said her political views were "well to the left—socialism as we know it in this country," but he denied that she had tried to indoctrinate him with Communist views.

Another witness for the prosecution, Mr Reginald Hoskins, a salesman in a photographic shop in Sheffield, said their record showed a Polaroid camera, with a close-up attachment capable of photographing documents, was sold to Prager in June, 1961.

After an application from Mr Comyn to Lord Widgery, the Lord Chief Justice, the court was cleared and went into camera for the rest of the day.

Prager has denied three charges under the Official Secrets Act. He is accused of making a sketch that might be useful to an enemy, and communicating documents that might be used to an enemy to two Czech intelligence officers. Both charges relate to the Blue Diver and date back to 1961. The third charge alleges that in Prague, in January this year, he entered into an arrangement with a foreign agent on how he could contact the agent. He denied all charges. The case continues today.

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Another witness for the prosecution, Mr Reginald Hoskins, a salesman in a photographic shop in Sheffield, said their record



## MPs seek rise in probation officers' pay

By our Correspondent

Further pressure on the Government to improve its pay offer to probation officers came yesterday in the shape of a Commons motion, a member's question, and a letter from the National Association of Probation Officers to its representatives serving on the three working groups in the Home Office, which are considering the recommendations of the Wootton Committee.

The Commons motion, tabled by a group of Labour MPs calls on the Home Secretary, Mr. Maudling, to put forward "a substantially increased offer for the salaries of probation officers."

## Hawker has 748 success

By JOHN CALLAGHAN

Hawker Siddeley signed a contract with the Australian Government yesterday for two 748 aircraft for the Australian Navy. The company made a formal event of the occasion because the sale—worth about £1 million—brings the sales score for the aircraft designed and built in Manchester to 250.

Sir Arnold Hall, chairman and managing director of Hawker Siddeley, invited Sir Alexander Downer, the Australian High Commissioner, to sign the deal for the two aircraft at the Café Royal in London. Sir Alexander said he hoped the contract portended close contacts between British and Australian trade. The Common Market, he pictured as "horrible things you are going to do to rural industries which I used to represent in the Australian Parliament."

In an unassuming way the two-engined 48-seat aircraft has become Britain's second best-selling postwar aircraft—the Vickers Viscount leads with 450. It began life as the Avro 748, in June, 1960, faced with the embarrassment of competing with the Handley Page Herald for the same market, the successor to the Douglas Dakota. The 748 has won the battle among British aircraft, but has had to share the cake with the Fokker, whose Friendship has sold more than 400 and fought off a challenge from the Japanese YS 11.

Hawker Siddeley has succeeded by building a sort of Vespa among aircraft—a machine for taking air transport to people hitherto without airports. Its great strength is its ability to operate from rough strips. This is due not only to the strength of undercarriage, but to the design which stops "ingestion" the throwing of mud from the wheels into the engines. Here the 748 scores heavily over the YS 11.

Allowing for a certain amount of writing off at development costs, the 748 is now making a profit. There are perhaps six years left for making new 748s; after that the supply of spares and service will continue to earn money for Britain.

## Scorpion sale to Belgium

By our Defence Staff

British Leyland announced yesterday an order by Belgium for £4 million worth of light aluminium alloy Scorpion tanks. This is the first overseas order for the vehicles, which were ordered by the British Army only in April last year.

The Scorpion, which is built by Alvis, a BMC subsidiary, is the first military vehicle in the world to have entirely aluminium armour. Its basic model is a light tank armed with a 76mm gun and powered by the same engine as an E-type Jaguar.

The 130 Scorpions are being bought as part of a co-production agreement between Britain and Belgium in October, 1970, which is expected to deal with about 700 vehicles of various sorts with a total value of at least £30 million, including spares.

The vehicle was designed and developed by the Ministry of Defence military vehicles and engineering establishment and Alvis.

Commenting on the sale last night, Lord Stokes, chairman and managing director of Leyland, said: "Sales presentation of this family of armoured vehicles to overseas countries has aroused great interest and we believe they have a high export potential."

## Letter sold for £4,800

A nearly contemporary copy of a letter by the Elizabethan poet, Sir Philip Sidney, was sold for £4,800 on the second day of a two-day sale of historic manuscripts in London yesterday.

The sale, the seventh of a series started in 1965, raised £44,750. It boosted the total raised to £1,272,967.

## Silver lining up the crowds

By John Fairhall

The Duke of Bedford wanted something new to show visitors to Woburn Abbey. The Duchess, he said, wanted it to be something cultural, "to counteract the swings and slides."

The result, opened yesterday, are the silver and Sevres vaults—excavated amid the bones of the abbey's pre-18th-century monks. They make a dramatic and highly secure setting for Bedford heirlooms which until now have been scattered around the Abbey.

The 18th-century Sevres dinner service, given by Louis XV to the wife of the fourth Duke, was once kept in a kitchen cupboard. Then it cost £18,374. Now priceless, it is set out

with taffeta and fleur-de-lis, ready for dinner Versailles style.

The silver was formerly mostly in one room, but lumped together rather than displayed. When the Christie's silver man, Mr. Arthur Grimwade, first saw the collection in 1940, it was kept in a service room, with the plate man—whose life was devoted to cleaning it—sleeping in the room.

Now properly displayed, the collection will draw the serious silver collectors of Europe to Woburn. The rarities include a James I standing salt and cover with a

crystal stem, a German porringer and beakers inlaid with Roman gold coins, and work by Paul de Larrie.

His high rococo bread-baskets could be a specialised taste. More generally appealing are the functional travelling silver services used by the Duke and Duchess in the late eighteenth century.

There is other silver, such as the big candelabra and candlesticks about the Abbey.

The Duchess has her morning tea from a silver gift teapot. "I am terrible first thing in the morning and to see something beautiful cheers me up," she said.

The Duke and Duchess of Bedford in the new pavilion yesterday



## Islands question to Six

By our Diplomatic Staff

Britain is to ask the Six today to agree in principle that associate membership should be offered to the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man. The Government would like the principle established before negotiations on British membership end, but would leave the details of their association agreements until later.

Part of the problem is defining the status of the islands. To include them in the description of the Realm, they have to be added thus: "The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Islands."

The Community is fast becoming the great centre for decision-making in Europe, and it is in our national interest to have a full share in those decisions as members, rather than as observers. Being able to influence them is essential.

Mr. George Thomson, who was the Labour Minister in charge of negotiations with Europe, said that if Britain did not succeed in getting fair and acceptable terms, the British people would face a second-

## Fears about EEC 'taken to heart'

By our Correspondent

At a Common Market forum in Birmingham yesterday, Mr. Anthony Royle, Parliamentary Under-Secretary at the Foreign Office, said that the Government cared very deeply about the British people's worries and fears over Europe.

He told the audience of more than 300 that Britain's security and independence were more than ever bound up with its European neighbours. "Our very livelihood is bound up with their prosperity since Western Europe is our greatest and one of our most promising export markets."

"The Community is fast becoming the great centre for decision-making in Europe, and it is in our national interest to have a full share in those decisions as members, rather than as observers. Being able to influence them is essential."

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## Referendum move by Keep Out to Go Inners

By our own Reporter

The Keep Britain Out movement, which opposes Britain's entry into the Common Market, is to extend an invitation to the European Movement, which espouses entry, to cooperate with its referendum at Lowestoft next month.

"The European Movement is saying that a referendum conducted by us would be weighted against entry," Mr. Christopher Frere-Smith, the Keep Britain

Out movement's chairman said. "We will invite the European Movement either to conduct this referendum and other ones with us, or to stage its own in towns of its own selection while we stage them in other towns."

Common Market opponents have chosen Lowestoft as one of the towns for a private referendum because it is the constituency of Mr. Prior, the Minister for Agriculture. The Keep Britain Out movement maintains that Mr. Prior last year gave a pledge that he would not support Britain's entry unless he had the backing of the majority of his constituents. Mr. Prior denies giving this pledge.

Mr. Frere-Smith said it was ridiculous for supporters of market entry to complain that opponents were distorting public opinion because they were making all the running as far as publicity was concerned.

## Square for university

By our Correspondent

Oxford University yesterday approved plans for developing Wellington Square in the city entirely for academic purposes. The scheme, which will take several years to complete, includes administrative offices, libraries, faculty accommodation, and residential and commercial accommodation.

Explaining one of the many Woburn ventures—the Antiquary Fair, where 52 dealers now have shops in what were once stables—the Duchess showed herself to be hugely cheerful but also very formidable. "These antique dealers are like children," she said smilingly. "Sometimes I have to bang the table at them like a schoolmistress."

Part of the fair's success comes from its Sunday opening. For a foreign dealer stuck in his London hotel, it saves a wasted day.

The Duke and Duchess have a mini-bus waiting outside Grosvenor House each Sunday morning. With antiques, dog-gems, and wild animals, they are running a very professional operation at Woburn.

## Benefits plan 'mean'

About four million people would lose £19 million a year under the Government's proposal to abolish payment of benefit for the first three days of sickness or unemployment, Mr. Michael Allison, Under-Secretary at the Department of Health and Social Security, told the Commons Standing Committee yesterday.

The Social Security Bill, which would mean an average loss of between £4 and £5 a year per worker, he said.

Labour MPs had attacked the proposal as "mean, despicable, and vicious."

Mr. Allison said the Government considered that the payment of the three waiting days "was no longer a priority."

A whole range of new terminal payments was available. Sick pay schemes now covered nearly 65 per cent of full-time manual male workers. In real terms, the benefit for sickness had nearly doubled since 1948, he said.

Related supplement which averaged at present £4.75. Since then, earnings had gone up five times and prices had gone up two and a half times. This meant a sharp increase in real earnings.

The most vulnerable hardship cases were protected by the supplementary benefits, Mr. Allison said.

Several Labour MPs accused the Minister of creating two classes of people in society—those who got sick benefits equivalent to their wages and those who got no benefit at all for the first three days.

The committee was adjourned until tomorrow.

## Clerk sworn in

Mr. William Edward Charles Robins, aged 47, senior chief clerk at Thames Magistrates Court since 1968, was sworn in as a Metropolitan Stipendiary Magistrate at the Law Courts in London yesterday. He will sit at Wells Street.

The results of the campaign will be sent to the Secretary for the Environment.

## Gipsy Act 'will open teachers' eyes'

By our Education Correspondent

Many gipsy children are going to be thrust into schools and many teachers are going to be scared stiff this autumn as a result of the implementation of the Caravan Sites Act Part II, according to Mr. Christopher Reiss, director of the Schools Council project on the education of travelling children.

An edited report of the research and policy conference of the National Gipsy Education Council—held in Oxford in March—will give many schools the new permanent caravan sites their first insight into the complexity of gipsy culture and gipsy attitudes towards education.

Commenting on current trends in education, Mr. Reiss said: "Travelling parents are

## Magistrates are eager to have court regrouping

BY OUR LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

The Magistrates' Association is likely to accept the suggestion that magistrates' courts should be brought within the centralised system already provided for the higher courts under the Courts Act, passed this year following recommendations by the Beching Royal Commission.

The Home Office, in consultation with the Lord Chancellor's Department, sent out a consultative paper on Monday examining such a change for magistrates' courts. The Magistrates' Association has not yet reached a decision, but it has already sounded out its members. Two-thirds of local branches responded favourably to a memorandum circulated in March which urged that petty sessions divisions should be grouped with the new Crown Court districts. The memorandum was drafted by the deputy chairman of the association's legal committee, Professor R. M. Jackson, of Cambridge University.

The main reason given for the proposed change was the administrative inconvenience of the present system, based on irrelevant local boundaries. The speeding motorist in a built-up area came before county or borough justices according to whether he had crossed an invisible frontier. There was no way in which such courts could help each other out. Some were

overworked whilst others could take on more work. The memorandum said the reorganisation of magistrates' courts could not be successful if it had to observe local government boundaries—even under the proposals for reorganisation of local administration made by the Government.

It suggested that all the petty sessions divisions in each of the 95 Crown Court districts should be grouped together. There should be a magistrates' court committee for each district with each petty sessions division electing a justice to the committee.

The memorandum suggested that magistrates should be appointed for the whole of England and Wales, on the advice as now of local advisory committees.

Under this scheme, the Home Office would lose responsibility for the magistrates' system to the Lord Chancellor. The Lord Chancellor has already assumed responsibility for the higher courts under the Beching plan.

At the time of the Beching investigation, it seemed that a separate Royal Commission would have to look at the question of the magistrates' courts. Now, however, it looks as if the Government will act without setting up any kind of independent inquiry after it has gathered in the reactions to this week's consultative document.

## Engineers ready to face courts

The Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, which has 1.5 million members, pledged itself yesterday to lead the trade union movement to fight the effects of the Industrial Relations Bill when it becomes law.

Mr. Hugh Scanlon, the union's president, pointed out the serious consequences of de-registering under the Act, but said he fully supported "the act of defiance we can offer this Government on the Bill—not to register," and the national conference at Torquay voted to continue the fight.

Mr. Eddie Marsden, the general secretary of the construction union, said: "We shall create so many difficulties for the Government that the Bill will become ineffective. We shall find ourselves in the courts because our members will not stop taking traditional forms of action against employers."

He recognised that some unions would cooperate with the Bill and register, but added: "We can defeat its aims if all the main industrial unions refused to register."

Mr. George Doughty and Mr. Bill Simpson, general secretaries of the technical and supervisory and foundry sections, said that their sections would de-register.

Mr. Scanlon said that the engineering section executive had already decided to tell the Registrar on the day Royal Assent is given to the Bill that it does not want to be included on the temporary register.

Right and Left-wing sections united in voting to use all the union's resources, including, if necessary strike action, supported by the TUC, to defeat the Bill.

It instructed the executive not to register and to urge all industrial unions to take immediate industrial action should any member be penalised as a result of the law.

Delegates also pledged non-cooperation in industrial tribunals and other government-sponsored bodies connected with the Act, and called on the Parliamentary Labour Party to commit itself to repeal the Bill when returned to office.

Asked if the resolution meant that the union would take unilateral strike action, Mr. Scanlon replied: "No."

## Lakes road finds support

Plans to provide West Cumberland with a trunk link through the M6 via the A66 through the Lake District have met with opposition from conservationists including the Lake District Planning Board.

But yesterday, Mr. Arthur Eaton, secretary of the Cumberland Development Council, said that the numbers supporting the speedy completion of the road improvement scheme far outnumbered those opposing it.

His council distributed about 30,000 forms calling for signatures urging the Government to go ahead with the road.

"Already we have received several thousand completed forms supporting us and have had to provide extra forms," he said. "They come from individuals, companies, unions, and productivity organisations. Like us, they appreciate that without the road link, West Cumberland's economic future will be badly hit."

The results of the campaign will be sent to the Secretary for the Environment.

## Holiday incident inquiry

Officials at Brompton Hospital, Bristol yesterday investigated an incident in which three patients damaged a fishing boat and three other boats.

The patients were among a group of 17 who went on a week's holiday accompanied by a nurse. The three men got off on a motorboat moored in Weymouth harbour, Dorset. They were chased by fishermen and the three hit other boats before crashing into the harbour wall.

The hospital group secretary, Mr. Reg Hesse, said: "We understood they were chased and panicked. I do not know how badly the boats were damaged, but I have been told that the police will not be taking any action."

He added he did not see any reason not to continue taking patients on holiday. He would be making a report on the incident to the regional hospital board.

## Parents 'cruel'

Cruelty by West Indian parents was forcing their children to join street gangs, a London magistrate said yesterday.

Mrs. Pauline Crabbe, a Camden JP, told a racial harmony meeting at Catford: "The punishment dished out is so cruel that in some cases it becomes criminal—and the only way a child can get away from it is to turn to the streets."

She said last night: "In my area we have gangs of youngsters roaming around during the day and night."

## Prisoners give in

Wardens at Horfield Prison, Bristol, yesterday persuaded three prisoners who had barricaded themselves in their cells for 36 hours to come out. The prisoners claimed they were allowed only 20 minutes' outdoor exercises at weekends and were not allowed to pursue their hobbies. A Home Office spokesman said: "Disciplinary proceedings will be taken."



**KEITH DEWHURST on the bitter-sweet experience of staging his own musical**

## 'We are left with what few crumbs of experience might be of interest to people who speculate about the various ways in which plays can be staged'

ANYONE WHO HAS written a column will know how difficult it can be to resist the importuning advances of friends and sometime associates rampant for publicity. In my case I am constantly subjected to the boot-kicking flattery and occasional bitterness of my colleague the dramatic author Keith Dewhurst, and this week his blandishments have proved too insidious to resist. My only excuse to myself is that since his ballad play "Corunna" has finished its intended run, we are left with what few crumbs of experience might be of interest to people who speculate about the various ways in which plays can be staged.

"Corunna" is about Sir John Moore's retreat across the Spanish mountains in 1809, although with the exception of Sir John himself and a French General Colbert all the characters are fictional. It was written to be performed by five actors and five members of the folk rock group Steeleye Span, who play traditional English music on electric amplified instruments.

A straight talk to the audience by Sir John Moore. Then a song punctuated by narration

The parts to be played by the band were written with them in mind (the fiddler, for example, plays a soldier who has his tongue cut out as an act of psychological frightfulness and then has to "speak" with his fiddle), and the band's normal front man Tyger Hutchings was used as narrator—thus retaining some of the direct contact with the audience of a concert and helping to provide a context in which the amplifiers, microphones and so forth could be in view the whole time.

Behind the band there was a backcloth bearing a map of Spain and the Corunna campaign and the play began in concert style: an opening number from the band followed by an opening number from the actors: a straight talk to the audience by Sir John Moore. Then a song punctuated by narration with actors in view and by these degrees to an orthodox dramatic scene.

This scene itself was introduced by

what I suppose Keith Dewhurst would have to call alienation effects: the soldiers address remarks to the narrator who is clearly not in the play, and they openly crank a wind machine to simulate the bad weather.

This is a rather slow opening (on the first night with the critics sitting there it seemed to take about 90 years) but by the time it is over the circumstances of the retreat, the main characters and the variety of styles on which the play can draw are firmly established. This was arrived at partly by trial and error and by rewriting in rehearsal because a musical of this sort is a bit of an unknown quantity especially when the intention is to play it first of all in the Theatre Upstairs at the Royal Court (a tiny room which is full when there are a hundred people in) and then undertake a tour of one-night stands in places normally used by concerts and concert audiences.

These venues included such totally different spaces as the two thousand seats at Fairfield Halls at Croydon, a circular Victorian concert room in the St George's Hall, Liverpool, and big debating halls in University Unions. It was decided by the director Bill Bryden and the designer Di Seymour to create a production first of all for the Theatre Upstairs and then rehearse for each separate tour date.

The problem was that the instruments and mikes took up so much acting space that there had to be another performing area. So it was decided to perform to a ramp like a shank of a letter T with the audience at the end, a few seats crossways at the end, and a bar up the side. This was really an idea of practical necessity and no one had any idea how it would work.

Rehearsals were very slow because it was necessary to proceed haphazardly in order to draw out the singers, only one of whom had acted before, and that in the chorus of "The Merry Widow." So what with playing a song here and trying out a bit there it was almost ten days before Dewhurst and Bryden realised that they were using the ramp incorrectly. It was not until the very last night of the tour at Manchester University that they best exploited what they had stumbled upon.

To explain it one must say that the end of the play takes place in Manchester where the main character who has survived the wars comes home to

find everything changed by the industrial revolution. He has a long final speech which is answered not by dialogue but music—the music of the agrarian world that the factories have destroyed.

The point here is that played upon the ramp with the audience very near the actors and these scenes have an extraordinary emotional impact and one that is quite different from their effect in a frontal production; i.e. one to an audience sitting in rows in front of the stage.

The ramp production brings the audience into the play. It means that the actor can speak very easily to them, and work out a soliloquy in almost intimate conversation. It means that the audience's imagination must work to supply the settings, and that the actors can concentrate far more upon the content of the scene. A questioning of values like that at the end of "Corunna" is experienced very intensely by the audience round the ramp, and it will be seen of course what this ramp most resembles—the big apron stage, absence of scenery and contact with the audience of the Elizabethan playhouse.

When Hamlet said "The play's the thing," he did not, Keith Dewhurst asserts, behave as though he was on the stage of the National Theatre. He came down to an edge of the apron and talked to some particular person in the audience, Hamlet and the audience discovered the play together, an experience virtually impossible behind a proscenium arch because there the style of writing and the relationship between the actors and the audience are blurred.

That Keith Dewhurst has always tried to write a modern prose version of the classical English style is a vanity that I would urge readers to ignore: better perhaps to concentrate upon his prediction that George Orwell's "Nineteen Eighty-Four" stage could well be a vital revelation of how these plays can be brought to most effective life.

Of course there, as on the ramp, distance will no doubt weaken the effect. The ramp on which "Corunna" was played at the Royal Court was very narrow and in subsequent ramp productions at the Country Club, Hampstead, and Southampton University there were many people (at Southampton literally hundreds) sitting head-on beyond the ramp. The power of the

effect was undeniably diminished by distance, although if some people are in the correct relationship with the actors the emotions seem to spread surprisingly far among other people in the audience who are in a different spatial arrangement.

However, in the big debating hall at Manchester University the ramp was constructed of much larger blocks than elsewhere. It was much broader and thus seemed to punch the effect much farther back into the hall, at which the estimated attendance was about 500.

"Corunna" played in frontal productions at Croydon (where it survived in spite of the absurd size of the hall), at the Victorian-built theatre at Harrogate and at the Gulbenkian Theatre at Kent University, which is a modern octagonal shape thrust stage and as such seems a very good compromise. At Liverpool the play was done in the round and it was Keith Dewhurst's impression that this space was exhilarating for action scenes and the show's song and dance numbers, but that where real emotional and intellectual concentration is called for there is a slight loss of focus.

As he pores over my shoulder Keith Dewhurst says why not mention the laughs they had

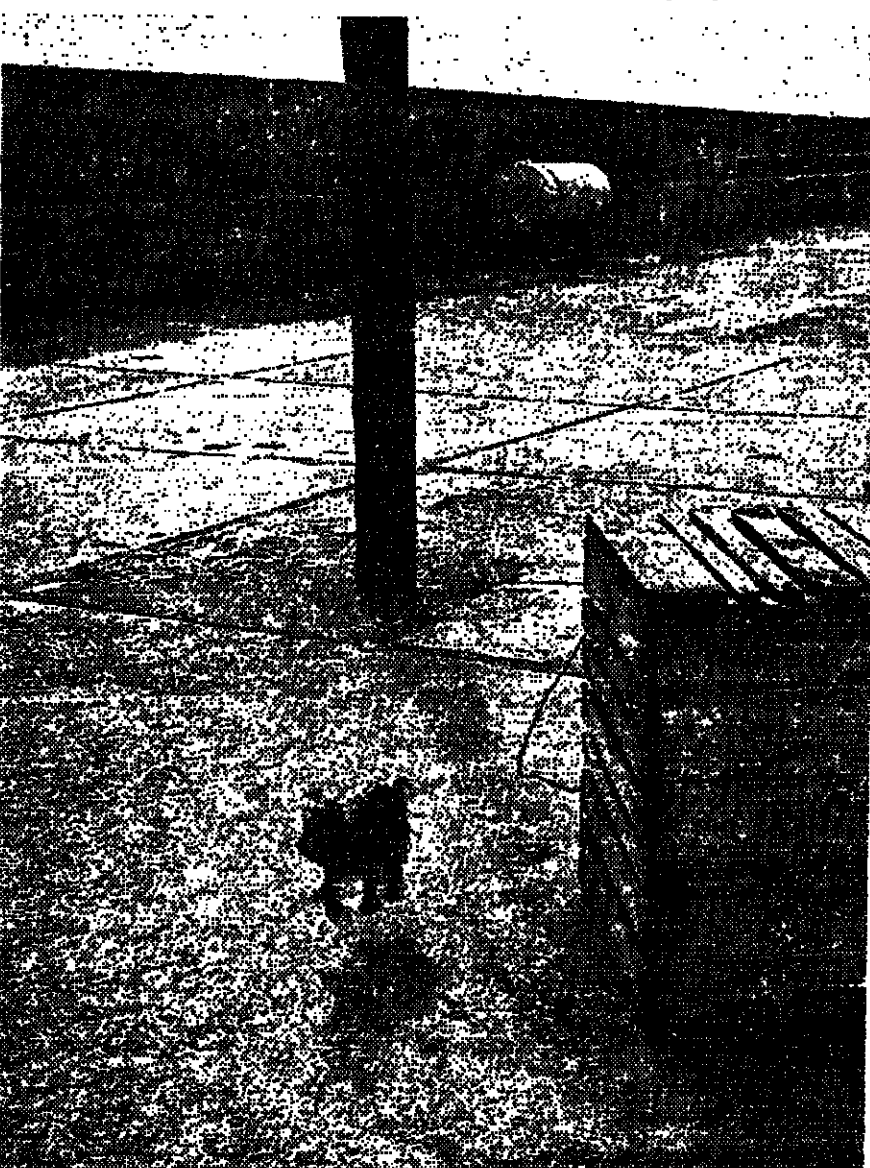
In all the venues the production used actors among the audience and so forth but these were just enjoyable tricks: about the ramp there was something special and the company make no claim to have invented it. They are just very pleased to have stumbled upon a truth.

As he pores over my shoulder Keith Dewhurst says why not mention the laughs they had on tour such as when his trousers split in Manchester, and why not say that the play contains 18 songs and more funny scenes than serious and that he hopes that it will be shown on television and presented again—but as I tell him people can discover all that and what the play's about when it does live again. The purpose of this column is serious highbrow interest, not showbiz publicity.



## SMILES AT THE EDGES

Bill Jay reports on Elliott Erwitt's photographs



THE PERSONAL pictures of an internationally famous advertising photographer, Elliott Erwitt, are on show at the Photographers' Gallery from today. He is always delighted to grab any opportunity to show his personal work—even if it is in the men's room at Victoria Station. There are so few places where you can display your work that when you do get a place I think you ought to be enthusiastic about it.

Elliott Erwitt was born in France of Russian parents, grew up in Italy and has spent the past 22 years in the United States. His personal pictures he describes as "snapshots," without the family album connotations. They reveal expressions, gestures, situations between people, caught with an incredible precision of timing and framing, in peak clarity, like butterflies, pinned to paper, with wings outstretched in the very moment of unpredictable flight.

These frozen fractions of reality, shorn of technical gimmickry, have smiles at their edges. An unsuspecting bird mimics the angularity of an outside water tap; a market woman's breasts are two enormous melons on a foreground shelf (which British Transport refused to accept as a poster illustration since it was considered pornographic); a horse stands passive as a cluster of workmen dive headlong into the bonnet of a clapped-out truck; a sequence follows a dog along a street, sitting in front of a soap-box orator, walking off and relieving himself against a tree. Erwitt's pictures have instant appeal to non-photographers ("the shock of realism unadorned") yet retain a complexity which his fellow photographer can unravel and also appreciate.

Erwitt's photographs have no propaganda value, are not critical of man's eccentricities, never capitalise on an embarrassing human predicament, do not have a social conscience. A New York sociologist/photographer once stated: "There are two things I wanted to do. I wanted to show the things that had to be corrected. I wanted to show the things that had to be appreciated." Elliott Erwitt's snapshots are among those images to be appreciated.

It is too easy for a photographer of little talent to become "significant" because he uses the camera as a social weapon. Erwitt believes too many young photographers have fallen into this trap: "They all seem very nice fellows, but very mediocre photographers, usually with their hearts in the right place, caring about the down-trodden. That's usually what the pictures are about, which I have nothing against. The thing that I do have something against is that very often these pictures are undistinguished, the photographer is undistinguished, and very often an undistinguished photographer will mask his undistinguishedness with a subject with some social value or with a technical gimmick. I don't care if the pictures are of pussy cats if there is some quality in the work. I think I would prefer that."

He is very pessimistic about the future for these young photographers: "They have a certain idea about the glamorous life they're going to lead. But now there seems to be so little room for any new photographers. It's a very depressing future for this profession. There's no place to go, and the few places there are to go, I don't know about the likelihood of succeeding. Knowing the sort of work that is available, I probably wouldn't become a professional, I'd stay an amateur."

"I think that there are things that will gratify a good photographer if he can manage to stay aloft—like exhibitions and perhaps print sales. That's coming. But it's all very, very small potatoes. As far as actually being a good photographer, a good personal photographer, and earning a living at it, I just don't see how that's possible."

Erwitt's own situation, like so many photographers, has been to sell his talent to any buyer, and shoot his own pictures in his own time—commercial contrivances for money, personal prints for love. "There's no connection between the two, except you use cameras to do both."

Elliott Erwitt: Photographs and Anti-Photographs, the Photographers' Gallery, Great Newport Street, London WC1.

## review

COVENT GARDEN

Philip Hope-Wallace

## The new 'Tristan'

CULMINATION of a great reign at Covent Garden, Solli's long desired, long awaited "Tristan und Isolde" at the Royal Opera House was vouchsafed last Monday, a stunning five and a half hours of music, leaving souls penetrated lastingly—you are never the same after a good "Tristan"—and the senses racked with Wagner's chromatic ache.

Orchestral playing of unbelievable beauty was heard. True, Solli does not let the first prelude show like Furtwängler. But when since Beecham, have the Tryst and the Watch so glowed and throbbled? About these things I find it difficult to exercise critical sobriety: it would seem like "having reservations about the very stuff of the universe." Ich sehne um Sternben! Jess Thomas—singing as superbly as I have not heard him since his Bayreuth Lohengrin sent a shaft through the heart at that point. If any tenor has sung "Wohin Tristan nun scheidet" on this stage I was not there, alas, to hear it. Later, he was made to spill out his sheep's spleen, like a wounded nag in the bull ring, a painful sight, the only one.

Too often one has to avert the eyes from Wagner's lovers because they look like upended Chesterfields in a Knightsbridge shop window. But Jess Thomas and Ludmila Dvorakova looked beautiful, both lying on their backs in guilty duplicity, arms lifted to the stars beyond the branches of the tree which had lifted at Tristan's high A entry (one of Peter Hall's most marvellous strokes) and dropped to brood over them as, in shame, they sang "O sink hernieder" among the roots of the dominant tree. Earlier, waiting for the potion to work, he had bafflingly stood, back to back, fumbling hands. Not quite "Er sah mir in die Augen" but never mind: it, and the potion, worked.

Ludmila sang beautifully, effortlessly, successfully, with opaque tone and not enough "follow-through" to give you the heavenly lift of Flagstad or Nilsson at "Frau Minne's Macht" ("Mrs Love's power," in English, I regret to add)—but once you've heard Flagstad, of course, comparisons are absurd: like matching Southend to Chamonix.

Veasey perfect as Brangäne; McIntyre, a Kurvenal whose dying fall was like the death of chivalry itself, a Last Post in the rags of a red sunset. Best of all, David Ward's immensely dignified discovery of the guilty pair in the garden: one of producer Peter Hall's finest touches. King Marke "took root" by the tree; Diess mir? ("I was off again, gulping.")

How did Wagner, given the great story and the themes of the Wesendonck songs, actually create a magnum opus so potent in its erotic discharge that it makes every other work of the stage, everything in this silly conservative age, sound like piffle before the wind? Bury's dark sets are beautiful, with heavy Constable clouds of late afternoon and a water-satin swell of tide, also a genuine castle keep, bless him. But the benediction is on us: "ausserordentlich rührend."

OXFORD PLAYHOUSE

John Wilders

## Green Julia

ON A WET NIGHT, in the middle of exams, and to a half-empty house, there arrived in Oxford about the most subtle, inventive and beautifully acted play we've seen in these parts for years. "Green Julia" the 68 Theatre Company's presentation is the finest full length play by the novelist Paul Abelman. It's a duet for two graduate students, Jake and Bob, who are passing the time before the arrival of Julia with whom they intend to celebrate Jake's farewell at the end of a long partnership.

While waiting for Julia, however, they reveal themselves in a series of witty, private charades which, we are convinced, they have played for years. Their characters are complementary and interdependent: master and servant, tutor and pupil, general and adjutant, priest and confessor, Ratty and Mole. Since Mr Abelman has created them in perceptive detail and the two actors, Giles Block and Jonathan Lynne play as though they had always been together, making use of their shambles of a bed after it was where home, the play is wholly convincing a piece of reality. Yet, without turning solemn or breaking the play's naturalism, Mr Abelman touches gently on questions of identity, reality and illusion, and the fictions we create in order to become acceptable to ourselves.

The director, George Mully, has controlled the fluctuations of this almost plotless, witty conversation with admirable tact. In an ideal world the production would now move on to a long run in the West End. Since it may not, however, everyone in the neighbourhood of Oxford should hurry to the Playhouse now while this delightful achievement still exists.

TELEVISION

Nancy Banks-Smith

## The Lonely Sea

WHAT I MISS on TV is the pure pleasure of serendipity. Like simply twiddling a radio knob and hearing an ex-burglar describe his disguises. He said that impersonating a Guardian reporter was simplest of all. He merely adopted liberal attitudes.

It was a repeat. Something that disturbs me not at all when I am listening for pleasure but when I am watching for profit I avoid repeats and so would have missed on principle "The

Lonely Sea and the Sky" (BBC-1) had I realised it had already been shown on BBC-2. I must ditch my principles, they make life too predictable. For The Lonely Sea was a bobbydazzler. It dazzled, quite literally if you have colour. It caught the eye and took the breath and Sir Francis Chichester's characteristic irritability soiled the story delightfully.

Trilled and puffed as it was, one could hardly just happen to see "Seasons of the Year," a new Granada series which links its plays by setting them in the same house. The first play was one of those early nineteenth-century comedies in which the ladies appear to talk a few notes higher than is either normal or comfortable in order to express—I don't know—femininity, frivolity, the Regency, corsetry.

It was a pure fairy tale flummery about three marriageable girls called Faith, Hope and Charity (I knew a clergyman once who called his daughters Faith, Hope and Charity, both were misplaced as Charity stubbornly refused to be born).

The greatest point in its favour is that Monday is over ballasted with "World in Action," "Panorama," and "Horizon," and could stand a little sweetness and light. Consider "Seasons of the Year" as dessert, say syllabus.

QEH CONCERT

Hugo Cole

## Berio

BERIO CONDUCTED the London Sinfonietta, in the first of their two pre-European tour concerts at QEH, in five of his own works. How few composers of post-war vintage have maintained a recognisable character so clearly over almost 20 years. And Berio, in spite of being so much aware of what is going on around him, has always written music that refuses to be dated. The same flavour is in the early "El Mar" of 1952 and the latest "Air for Soprano" of 1970. Music full of euphonious, transparent sound, utterly without forced rhetoric or intellectual pretensions.

"Air for Soprano" is made from the simplest ingredients—a quick-moving soprano melismatic melodic line (almost a perpetual mobile) set for long stretches against lightest muted string tremolos with sharper spikes and blows from the piano. There is so little in it: the style is everything—elegance and perfect manners, and care for exactly the way in which sounds overlap and blend at this or that dynamic or pitch. Mozart and Ravel are the only two masters I can think of who can make us care so much about what is manifestly, pure musical play. All depends in such cases on the performance matching the music in finesse. Elise Ross, light, detached, and musically beautifully mannered, was the perfect soloist for this work.

Can anyone who cares so much for sounds for their own sake come to terms with the world of today? It is possible, as Berio showed in "O King" for soprano (Elise Ross again) with flute, clarinet, violin, cello and piano. The soprano mimes gently on the syllables of Martin Luther King's name, the voice weaving in and out of the web of instrumental sounds. The music is both thoughtful and sad, but this seems to be incidental. I think we listen for the delight of the way in which (say) the voice crescendos and then transforms itself into a clarinet note or in which a pattern of repeated sforzandi suddenly emerges for a few seconds, and then is blown away never to appear again.

"Laborintus II," an extended work written for Italian radio in 1965 to celebrate a Dante centenary seemed rather rambling for concert hall performance; perhaps because the text (English and Italian) which should have been in the foreground was swamped by the number of interesting musical and visual events and by the rather reserved delivery of the lines by Maurice Esam (speaker) and the London Sinfonietta Chorus. But throughout the orchestra played with all the subtlety and precision that even Berio could have wanted, and the pure pleasure and exhilaration of the sounds as they passed by made any question about the ultimate life-expectation of the work seem superfluous.

RADIO 3

Edward Greenfield

## Edmund Rubbra

AT THE AGE OF 70 Edmund Rubbra stands poised to deliver us his ninth symphony, and BBC Radio 3 with characteristic thoroughness is providing a quick cram course in the earlier symphonies—eight of them being broadcast over seven studio concerts as a 70th birthday tribute.

But where, I wonder, is the Prom celebration so obviously called for? I am surprised that no one thought of reviving the Rubbra symphony (dedicated to Sir Henry Wood) expressly written for a Prom in 1942, his fourth.

As we gathered in a broadcast from the BBC Northern Symphony Orchestra under Malcolm Arnold, this has some fine forthright passages very suitable for the Royal Albert Hall, notably the opening with its nobly arched violin phrases and the brass conclusion. I felt rather sorry for the players cramped in their studio, obviously finding it hard to clarify the often murky instrumentation which would be mellowed in an Albert Hall performance.

I remember hearing a broadcast of the first performance in 1942 and as a stuffy schoolboy being scandalised by the fact that the middle movement was a waltz (in those days Tchaikovsky's example was no recommendation to me). It is a gentle attractive interlude, nicely calculated to contrast with the massive structures on either side. The first movement is particularly impressive with a single crescendo unrelentingly sustained over a full 10 minutes up to the return of the main theme. Maybe the Proms will find room for the piece to celebrate the composer's 71st birthday.

Malcolm Arnold's own Serenade for small orchestra which opened the concert, proved an amiable enough piece, written in 1950 after the composer had spent a year in Italy. The easy tunefulness and skilled orchestration (typical of his style) reflect the Italian inspiration but on this occasion the sunlight could have been brighter.

Some of these notices appeared in late editions yesterday.



# WOMAN'S GUARDIAN

Russian women • plastic snacks • about the house

## Vendakrisp, Fropud and Scrumpijelli

Tomorrow evening a ceremonial High Tea will mark the reopening of the Guild of Sandwich Makers' Hall in Eastcheap. Badly bombed during the blitz the building has been restored through the generosity of the Packet Soup Foundation. DEREK COOPER has been taken on a tour of the premises by the veteran caterer, RAY GUNGE, Prime Warden of the Guild.

AS I PUSHED open the chromium-plated doors of Snackmaker's Hall a delicious blast of fried onions belled out. It was coming not from the kitchen but from an aerosol can held aloft by the maestro himself. As he directed a fine spray over the new fixtures and fittings Gunge waved a cheery greeting. "I'm trying to get a nice lived-in smell, it's all too new here for comfort," he said and handed me a tin of Sprayaroma. "That's a hotted beef and carrots I think, let's have some of that up the stairway there." Soon the odour of synthetic beef was mingling with the onion-reek and the dense clouds of Brimmore belching from Gunge's brazier.

"There, that's better. I'll turn on the heating, get the windows steamed up and it'll be just like home," Gunge, pushing 70 now, is still every inch the perfectionist and his qualifications are impressive. A founder member of the Cold Pie Commission and Adviser on Portion Control to the Hotel and Catering Industry Economy Council, he is also a Fellow of the Dried Food Institute, visiting lecturer in Snackcraft at Noshleigh College of Advanced Technology and Chief Examiner to the Sandwich Board. His training manual, *Shortcuts in Catering* is a bestseller and his outspoken autobiography *Frying High* is currently being serialised in this prestigious *Snackbar Gazette* and *Seaside Cafe News*.

Gunge has always been an innovator but he is modest about his own achievements. "I don't lay claim," he said diffidently, "to inventing the chained spoon but I was among the first to use it creatively. The fact that it's known as a 'gunge' in the trade speaks for itself." A typically modest remark from a very modest man. During the war he pioneered the practice of crimping paper napkins in half and this kind of attention to detail is still the hallmark of his own establishment, the justly renowned Café Royal in Noshleigh.

As Gunge began parsimoniously spreading margarine on a great mountain of sliced bread in readiness for a Committee Meeting later in the day he paid tribute to the generosity of manufacturers and suppliers: "Rentabloom for the coral arrangements in perpetuity. Messrs. Hine-Tune have installed their Mudestap in all public rooms, and Thawcock Ltd., the foilmeal firm, will cater at a nominal price for our formal haute cuisine Liverty functions."

In keeping with the Guild's forward-looking policy the accent is on the disposable, even the Beadle's gavel is a throwaway. The waxed paper plates, the simple polypropylene cutlery sets, the individual mini-tubes of mustard are functional and time-saving. "In theory," said Gunge proudly, "our meals here will be so packaged that they could be eaten standing up in a quite restricted area." The food will taste as good as it looks. The airline meal, said Gunge reflectively, "that is the real apogee of the snack. Hygienic, portable, consumable anytime anywhere and one indigest meal is exactly like any other."

"Not all our members can afford such a high quality product in their own snackeries," says Gunge, "but we're rather like the Council of Industrial Design—a national show place." On permanent display is a fine array of many convenience foods from giant consortia like Powerpax, Vendakrisp, Munch-a-Crunch Ltd., the Quicksnax Corporation, Fropud and Scrumpijelli Products.

Gunge showed me the up-to-date toilets and the gadget-packed lecture rooms where apprentices will be given advanced instruction in sandwich assembly and the preparation of a large variety of snacks from a simple cheese roll to an elaborate cordon bleu spaghetti on toast garnish.

The Guild represents many aspects of Britain's £150 million snack industry and as Gunge happily put it: "We're snack-obsessed as a country and of course it's getting worse, or better, depending how you look at it. He has a theory that people are now eating more between meals than at meals. "They can't stop—ice-creams, buns, sweets, cakes, crisps, pies, sandwiches, pasties, rolls—that's the market to be in these days."

The sandwich makers plan to hold open house once a month to publicise new products of which an estimated 25 come on the market every week. "We're becoming a nation of nibblers," said Gunge as he led me down to the member's own private Snackroom. As we relaxed over a round of sardine sandwiches and paper cups of vendad chocolate, Gunge talked enthusiastically of the future: "The fourth Earl of Sandwich had the right idea you know, the English can't be bothered with food, what they want is something they can eat that doesn't interfere with what they're doing. I mean you can have a sausage roll in one hand and still mark a biogo card with the other."

I asked him what he thought was the most remarkable snack development of the past few years. "Well apart from the extruded continuous hard-boiled egg, I'd say our flavoured crisps. If you can persuade people to eat baked bean flavoured crisps then you are home and dry aren't you?" Gunge filled his pipe and struck a match. "The next step is the marketing of a Basic Ur-Snack—a bland mouthful of textured protein, doesn't matter what it's made of, soya will do. With it you provide a kit to spray on the desired flavour—fishy, meaty, fruity. I'll be synthetic of course but nobody will notice, nobody will mind will they?" Gunge took a swig of his chocolate. "I must get the Beadle to look at that vending machine, this chocolate tastes exactly like coffee-flavoured tea. Still we mustn't look a gift horse in the mouth must we!"



filming in Moscow

GUS MACDONALD who has made a 'World in Action' film, for Granada TV, on Russian women reports on their problems of 'too much equality'

## After the battle was over...

A SURPRISING oversight in the minor industry of Women's Lib publications is the near-total neglect of the one place where women have almost made it—the Soviet Union. But the lack of interest works both ways. Russian women, told only of its more freakish aspects, talk about Women's Lib in the West with amusement and a little pity. They can afford to be patronising; many of their particular problems come from what they sometimes describe as "too much equality."

When Shirley Williams was at the Ministry of Labour she claimed it was easier for a rich man to get into Heaven than for a British woman to become an engineer. We are, however, making progress and one British engineer in 500 is now a woman. In Russia one engineer in three—unskilled, skilled, and qualified—is a woman.

The Russians claim that women now account for 58 per cent of all technicians and professionals with secondary and higher education, about three quarters of all doctors and teachers, 63 per cent of economists and just under half of the country's scientists and lawyers. There is equal pay for equal work but equality also runs all the way down. Women navvies in Moscow tear up the roads with pneumatic drills and form a third of the labour force on building sites.

Marx said that housework was stupefying and the Bolsheviks took him seriously. One of Lenin's first decrees gave women total equality to liberate them from domestic slavery, to free them from their stupefying and humiliating subjugation to the eternal drudgery of the kitchen and nursery.

Perhaps just as important in explaining the remarkable rôle now played

by women, is Russia's recent history. The thirties, Stalin's "Iron Age," pulled millions of women into industry and the last war was fought at terrible cost by a generation of men already thinned out by the remorseless succession of war, revolution, civil war, collectivisation, and the purges.

Ironically, the most important male stronghold still to fall is the Communist Party itself. Although about half the delegates to local soviets and a third of the Supreme Soviet are women, they constitute only 22 per cent of the party's 15 million members. Very few sit in the powerful Central Committee and the Politbureau is exclusively male.

To support women in production the Government has naturally had to develop an extensive system of back-up facilities. Half the children of pre-school age in Moscow are now in kindergartens. Most of the remainder are raised by that dominating figure in the close-knit families, the *babushka*, the Russian grandmother.

In Kindergarten 557, one of 26 run by the Lektachov lorry plant, 250 children were supervised by a staff of eighty—half of them qualified. A quarter of the children here are left in the kindergarten from Monday morning right through to Friday night. Their mothers were mostly young workers studying at night school for higher qualifications.

The children in the kindergartens look well-fed, well-dressed, and well-trained. Lenin looks down from the walls and writing and painting have a precision now unfashionable in Britain. Children are taken in from the age of 4 and some Soviet experts complain that the youngest children are unhappy in the nursery. One academic, Dr Urianis, argued publicly that women should stay at home until their child is 3, but according to

Galina Shebarina of the Soviet Women's Committee, the working women themselves challenged Urianis because a three-year gap in their careers would leave them trailing behind the men.

Pregnant women get two months off work with pay before confinement and another two months afterwards. Their jobs and seniority are protected by law for a year and under Article 139 of the Constitution any plant director caught discriminating against a pregnant woman can get two years' hard labour in Siberia. Nina Sergeeva, deputy president of the Russian Republic's Supreme Court, had files on two such pending cases on her desk when we talked and she gloated a little over the discomfort of men who come before the courts and find them run largely by women.

The courts don't interfere with couples who want a divorce if they have no children. A form is filled in at the local register office and an annulment given on payment of 50 roubles (about £25). Estranged parents do come before a divorce court to attempt a reconciliation during a three-month delay but if it is unsuccessful a decree is granted, the family property evenly divided, and the husband made to pay 25 per cent of his income in maintenance for the first child whose custody usually goes to the mother. Again the cost is 50 roubles.

Divorce seems to carry little social stigma and the breakdown rate of Russian marriages is now challenging that of the United States. Some Russians claim to have spotted a trend among the younger intelligentsia towards women having a child but not bothering with a husband. "The kindergartens look after the child so why take on the boring problems of looking after a man."

Young people's attitude to sex is fairly relaxed, but formal sex education is minimal. The "Playboy"-type sexism so loathed by Women's Lib just does not exist ("Sex is not a commodity in our country") and the official attitude to "pornography" in the arts makes Lord Longford look like a swinger. Questions about the present relevance of theories of free love and the abolition of the family under communism advocated by the leading woman Bolshevik of the twenties, Alexandra Kollantai, get a very cold response.

Most urban women now seem content with only one child and a survey in Moscow showed that 99 per cent of mothers with two children abort their third pregnancy. Abortion is free on demand at district polyclinics and is the most widely practised form of birth control. Russian doctors are still suspicious of the pill and rarely prescribe it.

The marked reluctance of younger women to breed is causing a lot of official concern. "Mother-Heroine" medals for mothers of five failed to stop a slump of 30 per cent in the birthrate during the sixties, which brought urban rates in Russia down to and sometimes below Western levels. This threatens an "ageing" trend which, if unchecked, will create demographic imbalances and disrupt the planned economic growth.

The modern woman's attitude to abortion and divorce clearly makes the State a bit uncomfortable but a spokeswoman explained that the ultimate choice had to be left with the mother and the State could not interfere. She denied that the continuing housing problem was directly responsible for the low birth rate: "The war left us with a worse housing problem but the birth rate stayed high. It is a problem of affluence and the

rising cultural level of women. Parents now want to give a child what they were deprived of—good food, good clothes, and perhaps a piano before another baby."

Shopping is still a problem for women. Food can be ordered and delivered at work and factories sell part-prepared food but queues and substandard and expensive goods cause a lot of irritation which Brezhnev tried to dispel by promising action on consumer goods and distribution in the new Five Year Plan.

The final and more basic problem is that the psychological attitudes of Russian men have not kept pace with the radical social change. They appear to help more with the home than men in the West but women still have only half as much leisure time as men according to Soviet surveys. "What we need now is not equality but more special privileges," said one woman worker.

Nevertheless the women don't want to retreat to the kitchen. Asked if they would still work if the husband earned enough for both of them, 22 per cent of women said "no," but 70 per cent wanted to stay in a job. I was told that most Russian men, asked the same question, would rather have the wife at home.

At the Supreme Court, Nina Shebarina was philosophical about it. "Socrates said 'Thank God you are a freeman and not a slave, and that you are a man and not a woman'—and that attitude has dominated for thousands of years. It is difficult to say how long it will take to change the traditional psychology of men. The economic independence of our women has brought substantial changes but there is still a contemptuous attitude to housework among many men. The most difficult fight is sometimes the fight against yourself."

## About the house by DIANA POLLOCK

### Deep secrets

THE SECRET of keeping the best flavour in home frozen vegetables is to blanch them at the first possible moment after they leave stalk or earth to arrest the enzyme action that sets in immediately on harvesting. Triumph's new blanching wire mesh baskets collapse completely for storage, measures 8in. across and is 6in. deep when open. It costs £1.15 from Elizabeth David, Bourne Street, London SW 1, Kendal Milne, Manchester, and Modern Kitchen Equipment, Liverpool.

READERS wanting names of bulk food suppliers for home freezers should write to: The Electricity Council, Dept. G, Trafalgar Buildings, 1, Charing Cross Road, London SW 1. Please enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope and state area: South (including London); Midlands (including Wales); North (including Scotland).

### Gay limpet

THERE ARE fashion colours for kitchen equipment as for most other things and sensible manufacturers



the new Prestige Limpet Mincer

follow the band. Prestige's latest mincer, the Limpet S, comes in a choice of hopper colour or tangerine, yellow, white, or turquoise. The suction base and crank handle are both of white stove-enamel and it is 7½in. high. There are four stainless steel cutters suitable for mincing meat (raw or cold), raw vegetables, the peel of citrus fruits, and nutshells. It costs £2.95 complete from kitchen equipment shops and departmentals everywhere including Selfridges, Oxford Street, London, and John Bakers of Kensington.

### Moth proven

HAD WE EARS as sensitive as bats, the champing of the ruthless jaws of clothes moths' larvae would become deafening. Jeyes have relaunched their moth discourager, a 16-ounce Airwick aerosol. The Mothproofer. Its navy blue container reminds us that even the best people have the same problem. Airwick's Royal Warrant won't exactly bother the moths but sprayed on clothes, carpets, curtains, insides of cupboards, and drawers, the fluid would give a mothfree 12 months. The Airwick Mothproofer can be bought from most chemists and ironmongers at 25p.

### Vertebreak

THE HUMAN spine was really designed for our ancestors who roamed around primeval forests mostly on all fours. A structure to support the body during hours slumped before the television or in a driving seat was never part of the designer's brief. So we have back-aches. A doctor working for years helping poor backs has now designed a moulded polyurethane wedge-shaped cushion—the Posture Cure—especially to support the small of the back, ease the strain, and pain too. It is 14 by 12 inches, 2 inches deep at base tapering to 1 inch at top and with a zipped, Clydella cover in a choice of patterns. It costs £2.98 plus 15p postage from Posture

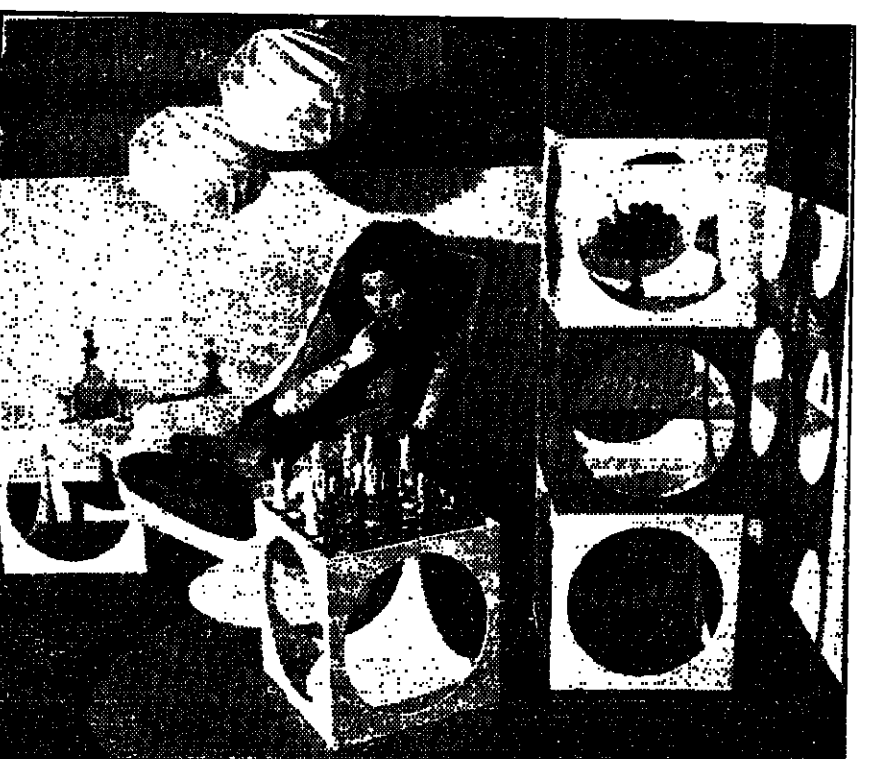
Research Associates, 59 Hook Road, Surbiton, Surrey (01-399 6644), or from John Bell & Croydon, Wigmore Street, London W 1.

### Cube stores

EVERYONE seems to be playing bricks, assembling cubics into cupboard storage for offices and homes. The Q Bit range of cubes made by Cuxson Gerrard Limited, have the merit of lightness of look and construction to make them versatile and almost lightweight. The cubes have round holes cut in four faces and bases are solid. There are three sizes of square—13in., 16in., and 18in. There are grey Acrylic shelves, castors, a fitted chess board top, a work chest with shelves. Prices vary with the size and additions, construction is of rigid plywood with a polyurethane finish, colours are orange, red, purple, green, white, or charcoal. A 13in. Q Bit costs from £14.85. Stockists include: Harrods, London; Lee Longlands, Birmingham; Joshua Taylor, Cambridge; Peter Carlsson Interiors, Stockport; and James Phillips, Bristol.

### Mug shops

IS THERE any reason why souvenirs should be hideous? The National Trust have solved the problem for some 17 of their houses by commissioning a series of mugs from Dora Williams. Her drawings, black outline on white pottery, sell at 50p each. So far nine are on sale: Trece, Cornwall; Montacute, Somerset; Bickling Hall, Norfolk; Sudbury Hall, Derby; Hardwick Hall, Derby; Castleward, Co. Down; Stourhead, Wilts; Penrhyn, Caernarvon; and Clondan Park, Surrey. The first six houses are also illustrated on matching tea plates—54p each. Pat Albrect's drawings are on mugs for the famous Dolls' Museum at Arlington Court and that for the Old Post Office, Tintagel. The complete collection can be seen and bought from the National Trust's headquarters at 42 Queen Anne Street (off Birdcage Walk), London SW 1.

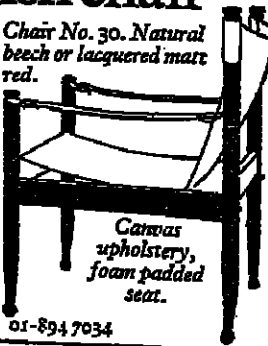


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## Questions of good faith

The Upper Clyde crisis, coming on the eve of the Government's first anniversary, is a fair test of contemporary conservatism. Is the Government, with political motives, destroying what could have been an efficient and productive enterprise? That is what Labour alleges. Or is it looking hard for an "orderly, sensible, and humane" solution (Mr John Davies's words) to an extremely awkward industrial tragedy? The evidence is not conclusive either way. Mr Davies yesterday made a coherent case for the action he is taking, and he seemed far from insensitive to the wider implications for the prosperity and development of Clydeside and West Central Scotland. Yet Mr Wedgwood Benn had telling reasons to argue that the Conservative Government, from the beginning, wanted to see Upper Clyde Shipbuilders carved up.

We may never know the full truth of the matter—of how far, that is, Conservative dogma and doctrine were the undoing of UCS. What we shall know, at least by this time next year, is whether the Davies-Heath approach can lead to the retention of jobs and to industrial efficiency. We may also be able to see more clearly whether the discipline of market forces works worse or better than Labour's manipulation of industry through the Industrial Reorganisation Corporation and the Industrial Expansion Act. And in all probability we shall still be wishing that both sides were less dogmatic. Britain will have to live with a mixed economy—part private enterprise and part public enterprise—for years to come. It would be welcome if both parties recognised the point.

Over UCS, the first question is whether the shipyards within the group could ever become efficient and profitable. Mr John Davies, in effect, says "not with the present structure and management." By his account, the story of UCS is a chronic case of managerial failure. After repeated promises that the reconstruction begun by the Labour Government would bring good results, the UCS board came back to him last week with its woe-filled tale of cash shortage. Not only that, but the management gave the Government only 48 hours to make up its mind—and this after a "glowing" forecast only just over a month ago. Virtually all of which is disputed by Mr Benn. Even on the question of the management's letter in early May, Mr Benn alleged that its contents were quite different. By his version

it said that while the trading results showed an encouraging trend the cash position was uncomfortable. (The truth of this is more significant than the highly dramatic—inevitably so—exchanges on whether or not Mr Benn as Minister had said 18 months ago that UCS would get no more Government money.) Mr Benn further alleged that Mr Davies was hostile to the Shipbuilding Industry Board; that the Government, in keeping with Mr Nicholas Ridley's 1969 report to the Conservative Shadow Cabinet, wanted to butcher UCS; that Mr Davies, by delaying payments due to UCS last winter, had undermined confidence in its capacity to survive; and that the great improvements in productivity and efficiency made in the Upper Clyde yards were being wrongfully discounted.

Perhaps under the Conservatives UCS never had a chance. Perhaps, alternatively, its board and management were always a little too optimistic about the change of fortune that was regularly just round the corner. It is hard to tell. Beyond doubt the Upper Clyde yards had been making great progress, with trade union cooperation. Beyond doubt, at least two of the three main yards in UCS look like productive units that ought to be kept at work building ships. Perhaps they will be, under the new John Davies dispensation. Perhaps in the end the further reconstruction that he hopes to bring about will prove both humane and efficient. Perhaps most of the jobs on and around Clydeside will be saved.

But one thing is certain: that to condemn or undermine a great enterprise just because it is nationalised or semi-nationalised is as silly as to think that nationalisation itself is any kind of remedy for industrial failure. Mr Davies is an original and outspoken Minister, and all the better for that; it will be bad for Britain and bad for the Government if he lets a doctrinaire dislike of public ownership cloud his judgment. Mr Wedgwood Benn, no less, was successful and imaginative in his handling of industry; and his view that the Government would have done better to continue assistance to UCS is compelling. But to think in terms of further nationalisation as a remedy now, as he did towards the end of yesterday's speech, is a bankrupt approach. It would not help the Clyde. The remedies now are concerned with management and cash resources, not ownership.

## Half-truths about Vietnam

The Vietnam war has regularly turned up incidents reflecting badly on the American involvement. But none has been as disturbing as the contents of the report commissioned by Robert McNamara when he was Secretary of Defence. The aim was to discover and put on record why and how the United States got itself stuck in the Asian quagmire. The three lengthy excerpts in "The New York Times" are not the whole story. The scope of the report does not cover briefings between Presidents and their advisers, National Security Council proceedings, nor a full account of other informal pressures on decision making. But what the reports do reveal will shake the faith of those who believed and hoped that the Government of the United States was acting sincerely and in accordance with its announced motives. They will evoke "I told you so" reactions from all those who have always attributed American decisions on Indo-China to dark motives.

The Gulf of Tonkin incident and resolution, the bombing of North Vietnam, and the commitment of ground troops in the South—all these major steps appear to have been concealed for what they were. The executive powers in government were largely successful in disregarding the legislature and public opinion, and in concealing the extent to which these moves were deliberately planned expansions of the war. A succession of senior and intelligent officials appear to have

been alarmingly incapable of questioning the reasons for and the success of involvement in the Vietnam war.

The action President Nixon decides to take over the publication of the McNamara papers could hurt him more than their contents. His general Vietnam policies appear on the surface to be better than those of his predecessors. But the period covered by the reports shows that, in relation to Indo-China and from the time of President Truman, policy decisions were not presented accurately in official and public statements. What reason is there to believe that practices grown habitual over all these years have now stopped?

The implications for the much-vaunted open society in the United States are the ones which will affect President Nixon's administration. Already a credibility gap yawns over such incidents as the abortive attempt to retrieve prisoners held in North Vietnam, predictions about the end of the Vietnam war, and the invasions of Cambodia and Laos. There appears to be an official refusal to admit failure. The alarming disparity between promise and performance depresses even those with faith in governmental processes. The McNamara papers show that super-Powers take decisions much the same way the world over—with scant concern for the opinions of the feelings of those they represent. President Nixon's task will be to prove that his method of government is in any way different.

## A Fascist foot in the door?

The success of the neo-Fascists in the Italian local elections does not mean that a new "March on Rome" is imminent. The neo-Fascist Party, the MSI, is far from being the kind of major political force which could topple the Government. It polled less than 14 per cent of the votes last weekend. Only a quarter of the electorate was involved in the elections which included Sicily and large areas of the south where the MSI has drawn its traditional support. The Christian Democrats and the Communists continue to dominate Italian national politics. However when all the qualifications are made the big increase in votes for the MSI will come as a nasty shock to many Italian politicians.

The leader of the MSI, Signor Almirante, described the election results as a victory for "our dead" at a mass rally yesterday at which Mussolini-type salutes were given. But it

is unlikely that many of those who voted for the MSI really want a return to a Mussolini type of regime. Many have lost the memory, and some never had the experience, of life under a Fascist dictatorship. It seems much more likely that the MSI has been receiving the protest votes mainly of regionally minded traditional right-wing supporters of the Christian Democrats. The Christian Democrats have really been a coalition of views ranging from the right to the advanced liberal. That coalition is now cracking under the strains of the worsening economic and industrial situation and the paralysis of centre-left Government in Rome.

If a process of polarisation between right and left is taking place in Italian politics there may have to be wholesale realignments in the party spectrum. The MSI may decline like the Scottish Nationalists in British politics. But an uneasy question remains. Will the centre left coalition recover its political will? Unless it does and unless it proves able to tackle the deep-rooted problems of Italian society the polarisation in Italian politics may sharpen.

## A COUNTRY DIARY

OXFORDSHIRE: After a tempestuous night of ceaseless heavy rain, my first thoughts on my early morning tour of the garden were that, if only the temperature would rise ten degrees or so, one would be able to witness the growth of plants. Apart from nothing with satisfaction that the watering of the newly planted winter-greens, put off from the previous evening, would now be unnecessary, there was nothing worthy of note in the vegetable garden; but, on glancing at my nursery bed, for one brief moment I thought that I had caught the orderly rows of seedlings and rooted cuttings in the act of visible movement upward. Fortunately I was familiar with the phenomenon, and the nightmarish spectacle (the horticultural equivalent of pink elephants) rapidly faded into a piece of rational observation. The apparent surrealist scene, of young lavender seedlings, berberis, buddleia, and rose species all producing long tendrils from their upper extremities, and more-over producing them at such a rate that the wavering, rotatory movement was clearly visible, suddenly resolved itself when similar growths (like miniature snake-charmers' cobras) began to arise from the bare earth itself. This was a sudden emergence of that mysterious creature, the horse-hair worm. I have come across odd ones and twos at rare intervals before, but this morning I counted over twenty. I believe these worms may be the basis of the old myth that horse-hairs, moistened by dew or rain, change into young eels. W. D. CAMPBELL



As the fate of UCS hangs in the balance, Dennis Johnson, on Clydeside, meets the working men long used to living between hope and despair in 'a cemetery with lights'

## Hardship yards

CLYDESIDES is the price Britain pays for her glory as a shipbuilding nation. You can feel the past as well as see it. Nothing changes much except the waxing and waning of hope and despair. In spite of spasmodic reconstruction, it is a harsh place, black, angular, and abrasive. As far as one could tell yesterday a lot of people thought it was being left to die.

"Clydeside is the only cemetery in the world with lights in it," said a John Brown's man in Connolly's Bar opposite the entrance to the shipyard. "It's bloody finished. Just look at the place. Nobody wants to come here."

When the 11.45 a.m. hooter sounds at the yard, workers stampede through the gates and into Connolly's like troops diving for cover into a trench. In Chelsea, Connolly's would be a rave. It is full of vast Victorian mirrors advertising beer, a big, square, yellowing room with a horseshoe bar. In Clydeside, though, Connolly's is just old, a part of the scene, and tourists would be curiosities.

Yesterday Connolly's was filled with groups drinking pints of "heavy" and turning over the newest chapter in their misfortunes. Jimmy Reid, the Communist chairman of the shop stewards, had made a great, fighting speech in the yard, hadn't he? John Brown's men were going to be an example to workers in the West of Scotland. Well, maybe.

"We're all giving a pound each towards the special train taking the Clydeside deputation to London tonight," said one man triumphantly, in a bobble hat.

"Oh, well, maybe with all these commies around, they should hire a plane and hijack the bloody train to Cuba out of the way," another said, and the group laughed loudly at the idea of somebody escaping somewhere. "It's all right for these Left-wingers. They're entitled to their view I'd say. But it's all talk. That's all it's ever been. There's nothing you can do."

During the morning there were doubts about whether the Glasgow Savings Bank, along Dunbarton Road, would be willing to pay out the holiday

savings for John Brown's men. Clydeside Fair starts in a fortnight. It seemed like Rolls-Royce at Derby all over again, with mutual confidence—if confidence exists anywhere in Clydeside—sinking finally to the bottom of the Clyde.

By lunchtime, a white sheet of paper had been pinned to the yard gates and workers stopped in their headlong rush to read the message: "The Clydeside branch of the Savings Bank of Glasgow have made arrangements to pay out twelve weeks of this quarter's savings from 2.45 p.m. . . . Nobody cheered."

Upper Clydeside is Govan and Linthouse, on the south side of the river, and Scotstoun, Yoker, and Clydeside on the north. With the darkest cloud hanging over the John Brown yard, it is the Borough of Clydeside that bears the burden of greatest despair. The town has grown accustomed to the sour smell of defeat and the UCS crisis comes like a fate half expected, as though good news would have been too great a shock for its constitution.

Some of the great black tenements have been cleared, others left empty and forbidding. The nineteenth-century prosperity that built these huge cliffs of stone has never come back.

Even the Planning Office in Dunbarton Road, which divides the shipyards from a clutch of new tower blocks and white concrete terrace houses, on the hill that leads to the rich commuter land of Bearsden, looks like a betting shop: "Planning Department inquiries—top

flat." A crooked sign, "Halifax Building Society" hangs alongside, like a symbol of good will.

"We're just back to square one now," the Planning Officer, Mr James McNally, said. "We began to think things were improving when the Government agreed to finance three advance factories, and work on these is just starting. But no one's interested in a town that's always in trouble. We can get new work for ten-man firms, but nothing on the scale we need. Even up at Scotstoun three advance factories have been waiting three years for occupants."

Clydeside, a rural settlement until not much more than a hundred years ago, grew up for ships and associated engineering work. Beardmore's, which built Dreadnoughts in the First World War, disappeared in the thirties. Babcock and Wilcox, which employed 12,000 workers transferred all its operations to Renfrew two years ago. The Singer Company, which made munitions during the last war, provided 14,000 jobs until a few years ago, but the work force has been halved.

Of the 16,000 houses and flats in the borough, 14,000 are owned by either the local authority or the Scottish Special Housing Association, and although this is not unusual in Scottish towns and cities, it places a crippling responsibility for renewal on the community, especially in times of hardship, which in Clydeside is almost always.

Unemployment is already 13

per cent and if the 3,000 workers at John Brown's were to lose their jobs and register locally, the figure would increase to 18 per cent.

The deeper the discontent becomes, the farther recovery recedes. Last year a representative from a company thinking of developing Clydeside turned his car round and left as soon as he learned that there were four Communists on the local council.

The farther the decay and anxiety spreads, the more it eats into family life. The town's director of social work, Mr Charles Kirk, hopes to get another six social workers to add to his staff of nine, whose case loads grow month by month.

A recently published five-year review by the local council reported gloomily "since the Second World War, with the exception of the finance given directly or indirectly to industry, central government has invested nothing in Clydeside; it has provided no advance factories, industrial estates, or training centres, or any of the other general aids to industry as provided in a new town. On the commercial front, the picture is more or less the same. It has not rebuilt even one subpost office and a similar unfortunate position is true in respect of nationalised industries. With the exception of industry, the private sector of the economy in Clydeside is stagnant."

Clydeside shipyard workers are apt to see their hardships as bits of historical repetition. They were talking yesterday about the "hungry thirties," which they knew as well as any, and the way "Job No 534," which is their way of talking about the Queen Mary, which lay on the stocks for two years until the Government provided money for it to continue. "It's the same old story," they were saying in Connolly's, "except this time the money's run out." Traditionally, they will fight for the old yard, almost out of habit. Yet yesterday they seemed to be fighting with one eye on the long road that leads away from Clydeside to a less harrowing existence.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Wrong prisons, wrong prisoners?

Sir,—Your leader on prison policy (June 11) prompts me to comment that we should by now have learnt that proliferating the alternatives to prison does nothing to reduce the prison population.

Surely what is needed is a re-think about the nature and purpose of prison itself. In the first place it is the size of today's prisons that is primarily responsible for their destructiveness. Large institutions require a degree of rigidity that involves considerable depersonalisation of prisoners and staff alike. Work for inmates is almost invariably boring and degrading because the problems of organising large scale out-working schemes are too great. Staff are often forced to lead very narrow lives on prison compounds in remote areas.

If prisons were the size of a smallish hostel, i.e. holding 20 to 30 prisoners, they could afford more flexible rules and thus a more normal life for everyone concerned. In the first place they could be located largely in urban areas without engendering too much fear in the local communities.

This, in addition to the reduction in size, should enhance the prospects of normal, local

jobs for prisoners. Secondly, the tremendous increase in the number of prison units would allow a great diversity of regimes, thus improving the chances of appropriate placement of offenders. Thirdly, the life of the staff would be made very much more satisfying by contact with ordinary communities and by the greater involvement that working in small units would promote.

There are, of course, too many implications of such a policy to cover even the most important in a letter such as this. However, two points should be mentioned. Firstly, the scheme would involve a very large expenditure and some will say it is not justified. There is no argument to such a criticism—it is simply a matter of priorities.

Secondly, as an erstwhile probation officer, I must stress that probation is not in the least a panacea for all offenders. Increasing the size and scope of the Probation and After-Care Service may well ease the liberal conscience but it will not reduce the prison population.

G. D. Marshall-Andrews (Mrs)  
31 Pagoda Avenue,  
Richmond, Surrey.

Sir,—Your leader "Playing Safe on Prisons" expresses most aptly the point of view of my society. For nearly 150 years the Royal London has, as far as it has been able, pressed for various reforms in the field of offenders and their rehabilitation—always dogged by a shortage of finance—but also appalled by the lack of foresight on the part of authority.

It is true that we need new prisons to replace the Victorian mausolea you refer to, we also need to appreciate that the reason prisons are over-full is because well over 50 per cent of the men in them should not be there. Among these, I refer particularly to the alcoholics. These men cost the taxpayer considerably more than £20 a week under the present procedure.

My society runs a hostel for discharged prisoners who are alcoholics and, for each man for whom we provide a home, encouragement and understanding, we receive from the Home Office a grant of £5 per week. The hostel accommodates 13 men and the annual deficit is about £1,500. The suc-

cess rate is most satisfactory. We have men with literally scores of short sentences against them who have been with us for many months during which period they have been steadily working as useful and productive members of the community.

The provision of additional finance on quite a modest scale would allow my society and many others struggling in the same field to recover literally hundreds of these men who at present are over-crowding our prisons at great expense.

When we have a Government that is prepared to provide money to be spent on prevention and cure as well as punishment, we shall have a Probation and After-Care Service that can tackle the job and sufficient hostels to help them do it. It is run by organisations such as mine that have the experience and the will, but not the money. —Yours faithfully,

H. C. Bennett,  
General Secretary,  
Royal London Aid Society  
Ltd,  
Hayward House,  
56-58 East India Dock Road,  
London E 14.

### Troubled waters

Sir,—I should like to clarify a point raised in the item about oiled seabirds in Monday's *Guardian*. In fact, the decision to destroy humanely seabirds badly affected by oil was taken by us in 1968.

However unpalatable the prospect the alternative is infinitely worse. All the evidence so far about methods of treatment of oiled birds indicate an infinitesimal recovery rate; in the vast majority of cases, treatment merely prolongs suffering, and because they are out of condition, the birds perish once they are returned to the sea.

The solution is for the nations of the world to stop treating the sea as an open sewer.—Yours faithfully,

Peter Corder,  
Director,  
The Royal Society for the  
Protection of Birds,  
The Lodge,  
Sandy, Bedfordshire.

**"I CAN'T POSSIBLY HAVE  
YOU WORKING HERE  
... YOU'D UPSET THE OTHERS"**

To any sufferer from epilepsy this kind of reply is probably all too familiar. And this in a so-called age of enlightenment.

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An understanding environment  
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Please send what you can to:  
**THE NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR EPILEPTICS**  
CHALFONT CENTRE for EPILEPSY, Chalfont St. Peter, Buckinghamshire

*July 1971*



# Yes, we have no sultanas

by Harold Jackson

It looks like grim days ahead ahead in Goll and the rest of the townships along the Murray River, Australia. Just as the Australians have souped the sultanas and the future now seems as uncertain as it did in the Dardanelles. But this war revolves, of all things, around the sultanas, and the Greeks and South Africans have been sucked in too.

It all stems from the collapse of the International Sultana Agreement, one of those twigs of the diplomatic tree that none of us knew about until it withered and died. But in its eight brief years of life it seems to have encompassed as much ingenuity and skulduggery as the Versailles Treaty.

If you think of the sultana and its cousin the raisin as nothing more than the bit that gets stuck in your teeth at bedtime there is a whole world of intrigue lost to you. They represent a £100 million business throughout the world and, with that sort of money at stake, it is a business with its own dark corners.

In 1963 the three main producers—Turkey, Greece, and Australia—got together to try to bring some order into its chaotic price war. They laid down a basic price for the grapes and raisins. But higher prices meant a greater incentive to produce and the Turks started shrivelling grapes at an alarming rate. (Sultanas are produced by having the waxy coating of the grape removed before drying; raisins are just left in the sun.)

In no time they had a surplus stock which they had a hard time getting rid of. Sultanas are not one of your great growth markets in Britain which takes more than any other importing country, we are still getting through the annual 65,000 tons that we were ten years ago, though the population has gone up. So the Turks started producing grapes not covered by the minimum price agreement and selling them at discounts. You had to be a pretty expert sultana spotter to tell the difference and tempers started to rise.

The Greeks followed into the discount business and the price started dipping from around £140 a ton to £112. South Africa joined the agreement last year but the fourth largest world producer, Iran, wouldn't touch it with a bargepole until everyone

resumed playing by the rules. Afghanistan came into the picture too after the UN had tamed up its agriculture, and now produces 30,000 tons a year—only a quarter of Turkey's output and a third of Greece's, but enough to gum up a delicately balanced market.

So, even with the discounts and the fiddling of grades, Turkey's surplus went on climbing. It is now reckoned to have reached about 50,000 tons, though they are understandably a bit secretive about it. That represents a fair pile of teacakes, certainly more than international glutty seems prepared to encompass.

The Turks then tried to persuade their partners in the agreement to help meet their demand as well as the price drop. The great hole in the agreement had been its failure to control production but no one felt inclined to block it. They were all too busy with their own currency. Collapse of the Sultana Agreement, amid general recriminations.

No one quite knows where we go from here. There are 45,000 people in the Murray River irrigation area dependent on the trade who are now far from sure where their next cheque will come from. The experts reckon it will take at least six months for things to be sorted out, which can be a long wait for your bank manager.

Though it may not be apparent to the lay eye, there are great differences between one sultana and another. Some are suitable for the retail trade, some only for manufacturing. It is assumed that producers will now start matching their sultana to their market and gradually corner enough of the action to support their families. The way production costs have been going they need to get about £165 a ton for a reasonable profit.

So the result may well be that the price will go up but the people most likely to suffer are not the connoisseurs of confectionery but the middle men. Throughout all the ups and downs of the price war they have followed Mr Heath's dictum with steadfast determination—they have not passed the difference on to the customer. Since the difference has been steadily increasing in their favour, it can come as no surprise. Now it looks as if they may be in for a caning, and it couldn't happen to nicer guys.

whatever the ultimate outcome, no blame must attach to France. Of course, there were more positive calculations too.

Mr Heath shares President Pompidou's views on the slow road to European political union. After Britain had stopped its old tactic of trying to use Germany to "gang up" on France and force Paris into opening the EEC door to Britain, President Pompidou saw the way open to rebuild the *entente cordiale*. Christopher Soames, Britain's Ambassador to France, had always argued that there was only one way into the Community, and that the door was in Paris, not in Bonn. He has proved his point.

He may have proved more. President Pompidou seems to be trying to steer France and Britain back to the kind of Europe that General de Gaulle outlined to the British Ambassador in the famous Soames affair. If Britain joins the Community, and President Pompidou and Mr Heath create the Europe they discussed in Paris, then the world will very likely see a strengthened European voice, led by a political directorate of its more powerful members, and backed up by an inner ring of customs union and an outer ring of a free trade area embracing most of Western Europe. If Britain opts out of Common Market membership, she will also be out of Europe's inner political directorate. She would instead find herself in the outer free trade ring. Mr Pompidou might regret it. But his tears, in all likelihood would be of the crocodile variety.

There are many orthodox Gualist among the French negotiators who were quite patently doing their best to undermine the negotiations. President Pompidou was doing nothing to check their activities, and pronouncements. His meeting with Mr Heath, cleared the air: Mr Pompidou had decided that

dates would be faced with a fait accompli. This was done, not without agony and marathon sessions. But a year ago, the Community was ready to open formal negotiations with Britain, Ireland, Norway, and Denmark. Until recently, however, nobody was sure about the French: instead of an open veto, were they trying to drive Britain into a corner, where Mr Heath would be obliged to report to Parliament that he has not been able to secure terms that Britain could accept.

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never men who rushed on to the stage trying to be "funny," but were serious men who had somehow arrived from some other planet and were soberly and seriously trying their best to understand and cope in this one. Such as when the clown Groat, faced with a piano stool too far away from the piano, soberly and responsibly moved the piano nearer the stool.

Certainly men of responsibility trying to cope were the backbone of much of the successful humour at the lunch. Thus, Mr David Kossoff comforting himself about the Beatles' MBEs with the thought that if he played his cards right he could become the first Jewish Archbishop; thus Mr Bentine's tussle with the BBC bureaucracy (after he had "burned" a brief of the TV Centre for a comedy show), which responsibly pointed out that the "TV Centre is not to be used

for the purposes of entertainment"; thus Mr Tommy Cooper's encounter with the insurance salesman who pointed out that £100 at age 90 might not be much but it would give one a start in life; thus the scriptwriter, Mr Johnny Speight (on the evidence of Mr Warren Mitchell) kindly informing Canon Collins as soon as he first met him at a party: "There's nothing bloody well up there, you know that, don't you?"

Come to that, the poor author, Mr Nathan, had a job to cope, too, among all this high-powered comic karate. He contented himself with observations like "After writing 100,000 words, I am still basically a fan," thus proving himself either no comedian at all, or the best one there.

"The Laughter Makers" by David Nathan, Peter Owen, £3.25.



## The watchful entente

HELLA PICK analyses Mr Heath's EEC jigsaw puzzle

on-off Odyssey that started ten years ago. Only two big questions still have to be settled: Britain's contribution to the Community budget during adaptation to membership, and the guarantees that can be obtained to secure butter and cheese markets for New Zealand. The budget question is close to solution, and though it will be at some remove from the terms that Britain suggested last year, the Community will not impose an impossible burden on Britain. There will be no logical grounds here for denouncing the Community's intentions, even though the budget terms will provide useful fodder for the anti-marketisers.

New Zealand is bound to cause some last-minute flutters, and may delay celebrations until July. But barring some major miscalculation, a formula will be reached that is capable of

securing an approving nod from Mr John Marshall, the New Zealand Deputy Prime Minister. Nobody—neither Mr Marshall, Mr Heath, nor Mr Pompidou—wants to create a situation where the fate of Britain's entry negotiations is threatened by the politics of a country almost at the other end of the globe from Europe.

Coming nearer to home, neither the British Government nor the Community want fishery problems to delay the happy ending to the negotiations. The Community will almost certainly agree to review its fisheries policy.

The Community is not giving Britain all it has been asking: it is simply meeting its obligations. The way and giving him the kind of terms that he can defend as reasonable. The unreasonable element, the condition which he could never have accepted,

was removed in Paris. Mr Heath could never have accepted the French demand to work out a timetable for ending the reserve role of sterling in the context of the membership negotiations.

From the moment it became clear that President Pompidou would be content with a general promise to consider the phasing out of the sterling balances after Britain joins the Community, it was clear that "reasonable" entry terms could be secured.

President Pompidou had shown at the EEC summit in the Hague in December 1969 that he had no intention of following his illustrious predecessor and pronouncing another veto on British membership. His only pre-condition to enlargement of the Community was that the common agricultural policy should be finalised, so that Britain and the other membership candi-

dates would be faced with a fait accompli. This was done, not without agony and marathon sessions. But a year ago, the Community was ready to open formal negotiations with Britain, Ireland, Norway, and Denmark.

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## MISCELLANY

### Caught zapping

HOW FAR was Her Majesty's Government aware of what was really going on in Vietnam during the year when the United States (as now revealed by the "New York Times") secretly preparing to bomb? Turn back to the Blue Book on Vietnam, published in December 1965.

There were curious omissions which puzzled some analysts at the time—and which might be explained by healthy British scepticism of American claims. The Pleiku incident, for example, when the Viet Cong shelled a base in South Vietnam in February, 1965. The Americans retaliated within hours by bombing in the North—and made sure everyone knew the bombing was intended as retaliation. The British account, though, does not mention Pleiku, but says merely that "air action was begun by the United States." As we now know, planning of the bombing had begun in earnest long before Pleiku. Did HMG know at the time?

And then, can a note of caution be detected in the British account of the Tonkin Gulf incidents of 1964 (also occasions for reprisals and increased military effort)? Phrases said that hostile action by the North Vietnamese "was reported," and a North Vietnamese torpedo boat "was believed to have been sunk." American reports were very much firmer.

● IAN MIKARDO's cross-talk act with Nora Bellof in the letters column of the "Observer" moves out of the music hall and into the betting shop. The popular MP for Poplar has written again to David Astor, enclosing a cheque for £100. The editor, he says, can give it to the charity of his choice. If Miss B. can prove from his speeches or writings her claim that he has taken "an almost consistently pro-Soviet line over many years."

### Egg roll

THE CHINESE have been having trouble with their weather forecasts too. Men in Kweichow province have been investigating a local saw that chickens rolling in the dust mean rain is on the way. They found it was not an infallible guide; but never discarded a theory without reference to Chairman Mao.

Thinks: "Each thing in its movement is interrelated with and interacts on the things around it." Back to the chickens, and only interrelated. The weather men found the chickens were right—when certain cloud formations were also present. The method has been declared 91 per cent accurate.

### Not balalaika

NOW, AT LAST. The truth about the Russian soldiers with snow on their boots who have troubled the collectors of English folklore ever since the First World War. Yes, they did come from Russia. Yes, they were wearing Russian uniforms. Yes, they were carrying balalaikas and singing Slavonic songs as they disembarked at Newcastle.

But no, they were not actually Russians. According to a new book by Margot Lawrence, to be published later this month by Michael Joseph, they were men of the two Serbian divisions recruited from Austrian prisoners in Russia and transferred to Salonika after the Russian Revolution. Their transit through England was hushed up for security reasons. Margot Lawrence's book, "Shadow of Swords," is a biography of Elsie Inglis, a

woman doctor who worked with the Serbian troops and whose presence on the British authorities was largely responsible for getting them out of Russia.

Miscellany had a small hand in solving the mystery. Eighteen months ago we wrote about Arthur Johnson, a Tyne-side man who claimed to have seen the Russians arrive. Margot Lawrence read the paragraph, got in touch with Johnson, compared notes, and concluded they were the same men. And the snow on their boots? Something must be left for folklore.

### Back track

AFTER "The Music Makers," the music makers. Ken Russell is ploughing some of the past in his Tchaikovsky film into a bit of missionary work. The record companies, he believes, have neglected Peter Maxwell Davies for too long. Now he's doing something about it.

Maxwell Davies's ballet music, Vesali's "Icones" appears on the Unicorn label this month. And his "Eight Songs for a Mad King" follow in September. Both records are backed financially by Russell.

The partnership is busting out in all directions. Warners are soon releasing "The Devils," based on Aldous Huxley's novel, John Whiting directed by Russell and scored by Maxwell Davies. Then comes "The Boy Friend," wicked frolics by the same composer. And finally, in July next year, Russell (as producer) and Maxwell Davies invade the opera house with "Tavernier" at Covent Garden.

### China clay

AID is politics. So is the United Nations. Which, perhaps as much as the cumbersome machinery, explains the UN's slow response to the plight of the Bengali refugees.

Apparently, it took some time to persuade the High Commissioner for Refugees, Prince Sadruddin Khan, to gear his relief teams for action. Sadruddin, uncle of the young Aga, holds a Pakistani passport. He hesitated before accepting that the refugees flowing into India should be recognised as qualifying for UN aid.

As for U Thant, the UN Secretary-General knows that the Chinese are on the side of Yahya Khan, and he too thought twice before taking any action that might offend Pakistan or its friends in Peking. U Thant is still hesitating to denounce the atrocities.

The Secretary-General is known to believe that the Chinese will be admitted to the UN next year. The odds are that he will still be there (the Great Powers seem unable to agree on a successor, and U Thant is expected to be asked to stay for at least another 12 months). As a prospective member, Peking will probably have to be consulted about the next Secretary-General. U Thant would be the very man to do the consulting. Another reason to stay in Chou En-lai's good books.

● WHO WHIPS the whippers? Renee Short's case for a three-line whip against the Common Market, passionately argued in the Guardian yesterday, has tickled not a few throats in the Parliamentary Labour Party. Of 329 divisions in the present Westminster session, our lady of Wolverhampton has voted in a mere 197. Of those where there was a three-line whip, she disregarded nearly a quarter. And she was the only Labour member to miss Monday night's vote on school milk.

## Hieratic huddle

Dennis Barker among the wags

"YOU may smoke—or you may burn," J.B. Priestley said after the loyal toast at the Dorchester yesterday thus indicating that the floor was there and waiting for jokes old and new, and that it was every man for himself.

Within 22 minutes Chairman with cannon were bombarding the House of Commons, 92-year-old gentlemen were discussing their disabilities in bed, Mexicans were being asked what they wanted on their backs before being gagged, and Moses, offstage a few Commandments, was saying: "Leave me 10 and we'll see how they go."

What a grimly purposeful business it all was under the brittle laughter at the Foyles literary luncheon in honour of Mr David Nathan's book, "The Laughter Makers." Mr Priestley, the Bradfordian, denied that Bradford was really the grave of comedians

—only of bad ones. He did not say, but might well have said, that an assembly of professionals—from Mr Ned Sherrin to Mr Tommy Cooper via Mr Richard Murdoch—can be the real graveyard.

It was gratifying that so many jokes went well as the did; and the whole business was really a study in reaction as well as performance—Mr Michael Bentine, for instance, being generous to practically any genuine comic nuance while Miss Thora Hird required a nudge in the ribs by a man wearing stark naked down a hotel corridor at night, and Mr Dudley Moore was apparently indifferent to all shades of humour not bearing an authentic post-1968 certificate.

Mr Priestley said it all, as he so often does, when he argued from the chairman's chair, preparatory to the fray, that good comedians were

PETER JENKINS

## Back to base

THE United States is turning on the heat against Western Europe. It is conducting a double pronged offensive on trade and defence. The US Secretary of State, Mr William Rogers, put it most politely in Paris last week when he told the 22 prosperous nations of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development: "There is not sufficient appreciation of the costs of the rôle the United States plays today in the security of the free world and how that rôle relates to economic conditions."

Other leading Americans have spelt the message out more bluntly. Mr John Connally, Secretary of the Treasury, recently accused the nations of the strong European nations of continuing with protectionist policies which were no longer justified. And he added: "It isn't a question of cutting the US troops in Europe: it's a question of who the hell is going to pay for them."

But for Senator Mike Mansfield it is a question of cutting the troops—cutting them by half. Provoked by the latest European attack on the dollar, Senator Mansfield expostulated that the US was actually paying the countries of Western Europe for the privilege of remaining there to defend them.

During several days last month senior officials in Washington were scared stiff that the Mansfield Resolution would be passed. One day it will. On this occasion it was the Soviet leader Mr Breznev who came to the rescue with his proposal for negotiated force reductions between NATO and the Warsaw Pact. The Nixon Administration laid it on thick and persuaded the Senate that this was the most hopeful peace move from the Russians in years. Passing the Mansfield Resolution would gravely undermine the American bargaining position.

As a result Mr Melvin



Laird, the US Defence Secretary, arrived at the NATO meeting in Lisbon with vigorous demands for a positive response to the Breznev initiative. The reaction of most NATO governments was much more cautious, with the British among the most cautious. But President Nixon had already promised at a White House press conference that the US and her allies would "move forward" to negotiate with the Russians. According to a high placed US official, "It's now a choice between mutually balanced force reductions and the Mansfield cuts."

Mr Laird has also been pressing for an increased NATO effort in the Mediterranean where the US has just wept up her naval resources to the growing Russian presence. The European members of NATO promised a report but were incapable of positive action. The Mediterranean is a particularly good example of American indignation with her allies. The EEC has turned the Mediterranean into a Common Market lake surrounded by preferential trade agreements. But it is the Sixth Fleet which is relied upon to counter the increasing Soviet influence in the area.

At the root of all these difficulties is the fact that the EEC has developed into a powerful trade block with the capacity to inflict damage without having developed the capacity to cope with the consequences. For the US protectionism, defence, and foreign policy are three elements of a single problem: Western Europe has no institutions for dealing effectively with these matters. Mr Nixon is under very strong pressure from the lobbies at home and he is going to need some quick results to persuade the American people that their generous and patient investment in the reconstruction of post-war Europe was and remains in the interest of the United States.



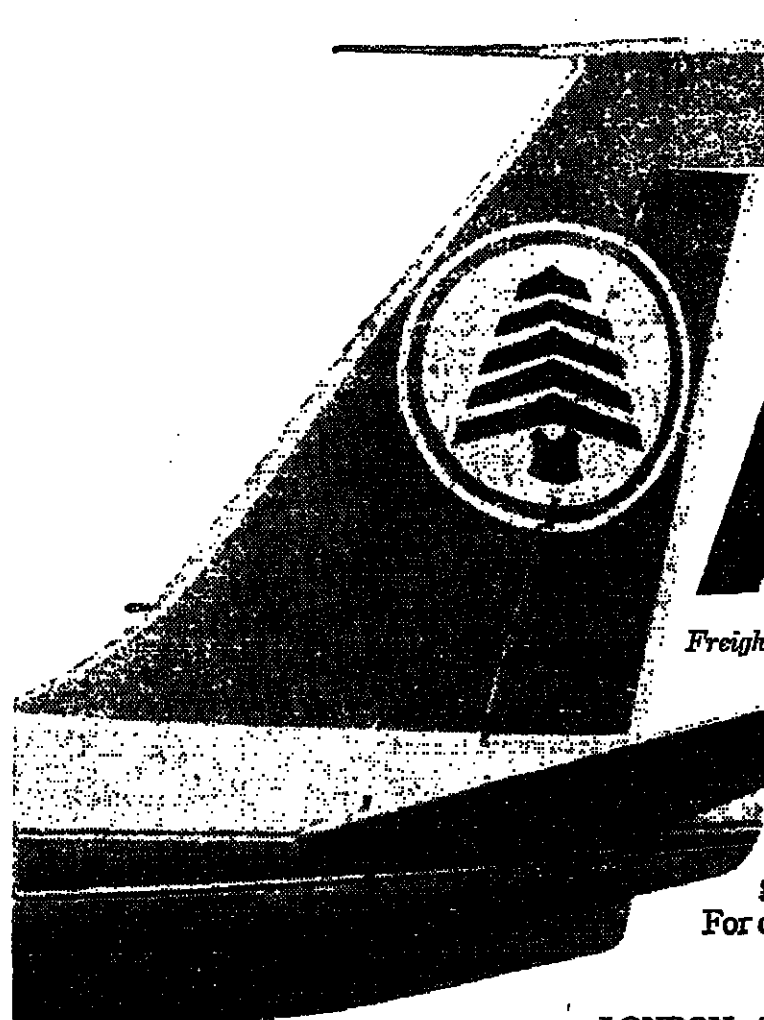
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*Afore ye go*

# BUSINESS GUARDIAN

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Edited by Anthony Harris and Charles Raw

**BELL'S**  
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## UCS crash may bring down small suppliers

By VICTOR KEEGAN, Industrial Correspondent

The British Marine Equipment Council, which represents most of the suppliers to Upper Clyde Shipbuilders, said yesterday that the crash would have a disastrous effect on many of its members and could mean insolvency for some.

The British Steel Corporation, which is believed to have owed £1 million by UCS and which cut off supplies on Monday, is likely to resume deliveries following a decision by the provisional liquidator to authorise the continuance of essential supplies.

The SSC, which supplies 26 million worth of heavy steel plate and other products to UCS each year, is planning to shut down its works but it is clear yet whether this will mean redundancies.

Although some small suppliers sending a large proportion of their output to UCS were felt to be at risk there was no big crash as such. As could be seen, there could be no big crash as such. As could be seen, there could be no big crash as such.

A spokesman for the Marine Equipment Council said that while the Government might give some formula to overcome the consequences of the closure to UCS employees and customers it was concerned that there would be no recompense for the hundreds of subcontractors which had supplied equipment to UCS and not been paid. The council represents over 150 suppliers ranging from

Serck, Stone Manganese, and Thorn Lighting, to Pirelli, Dunlop and English Electric Diesels.

Between 40 and 60 per cent of the cost of a ship is accounted for by equipment supplied—mainly by members of the Marine Equipment Council. Apart from a very big supplier like the BSC, most of the UCS suppliers will be owed tens of thousands of pounds.

One company, Viking Marine, which supplies lifeboats, said yesterday that it was owed £1,800—which is typical of a number of smaller companies.

Few people yesterday were prepared to say how much of the 228 million liabilities estimated by the liquidator were owing to suppliers. This figure presumably includes possible claims by shipowners in their claims are not delivered. In the end the amount owing to suppliers may be considerably less than £28 million. There is likely to be some tough bargaining between the liquidator and the shipowners over renegotiation of their contracts.

Cardigan Shipping said yesterday that it had two 25,000 tons dead weight bulk carriers already launched and in the course of fitting out at the Govan yard of UCS. The group has two further contracts for similar vessels due for delivery in 1972 for which 12 per cent payments had already been made.

Yesterday the controversy over how early the Government learned about the seriousness of the Upper Clyde crisis was intensified. It was learned that on May 3 a letter had been sent from UCS to the Department of the Shipbuilding Industry Board which contained the phrase that there was a continuing "acute cash difficulty".

In the Commons Mr Davies said that the full seriousness of the situation had been brought to him officially for the first time last Wednesday which had given him less than 48 hours in which to do something.

Eight former investors Overseas Services employees have started soliciting proxies to elect a new chairman. The group is based at the June stockholders' meeting in London.

In spite of a total loss last year of \$60.4 million, IOS still controls more than \$1,500 million in assets.

Among the dissidents a proxy statement listed Allen Cantor, former IOS sales chief, George Indau and George Tregea, both former directors, and Morton Shiohitz, former chief financial officer.

The eight dissidents listed their holdings of preferred shares, which elect two-thirds of the directors, at 176,276. However, a source close to the dissidents said out of 13 million preferred shares had already been committed out of a total of about 3 million shares.

A proxy statement issued earlier by IOS Ltd indicated that the dissidents could count on 9.5 million preferred shares, including 6 million preferred shares sold by under Bernard Cornfield in a re-arrangement with Mr. sco.

Although the United States Securities and Exchange Commission has tried to find out the purchase of Mr. Cornfield's shares was financed, Mr. sco, who is a director of an S bank in Switzerland, has evaded Swiss banking secrecy.

Provisional figures issued yesterday show that, although lower than the exceptional high third quarter 1970 total, the value of output of electronic capital equipment in the fourth quarter 1970 was still at a high level, and appreciably greater than in the fourth quarter of 1969.

Including research and development, total output for the quarter was £169m, of which £13m was for export. These figures represent increases over the fourth quarter of 1969 of 12 per cent and 12 per cent respectively.

For the year 1970 as a whole, output amounted to £666m, an increase of 24 per cent over 1969 figure of £535m. Output for export was £251m in 1970 against £194m in 1969, an increase of 30 per cent.

THE first two days of the week have already produced some interesting new material for the economic policy debate. Had news about investments and stocks, good trade figures, and almost hysterically emphatic advice from the world's central bankers to try incomes policy.

And, perhaps most significant of all, the collapse of UCS, with its dire message for business confidence.

For once all the straws are pointing in the same direction, and it will be surprising if the unemployment figures at the end of this week do not rub in the message.

The present recession in the UK economy is a great deal deeper than was expected or intended; and with the statistics so far showing a sharp slowdown in wage advances, and the good May trade figures, the signals seem set for reflation.

Or are they? If the picture was as simple as that, why has nothing happened?

The most compelling two arguments of the reflationists at the moment seem to be:

1 The present recession has caused production to fall at a much lower point than was intended. Therefore faster growth than was planned in the Budget is required to get back on course.

2 The Government has to present the European issue to Parliament this autumn, and it will be in a weak position if the economy is still in its present sick state.

These are backed by negative arguments—that the slowdown in wages and the May trade figures show that there is no constraint now imposed either by wage inflation or by the balance of payments on a moderate reflation.

Now it is not difficult to set up a case against these arguments. First, the prime object of Government policy at the moment is to contain inflation and to preserve our competitive strength.

This is not yet contained in the published forecasts, because they are not yet confirmed and the estimate is a vague one in any case: but so large a sum must bulk heavily in official thinking.

This is the kind of argument which seems to be implied in the calm view of the outlook shown in the Treasury's latest assessment

of the economy—and there is another cruxer which can be used to stiffen the spine of any wavering Conservative Minister.

This is that in the view both of official economists and of the international groups which have been so liberal with their advice, it would be risky to go for expansion unless some direct action was also taken on wage inflation.

To introduce a freeze now would be to admit that the whole strategy of confrontation and constraint which has been pursued so doggedly for a year was a mistake.

The central bankers are in effect saying that non-inflationary growth in a free market economy is no longer possible, and that it makes sense to talk growth only in the context of administered wages.

You may believe that, and Lord Balogh believes it; sometimes I believe it myself. But you cannot expect Mr Heath to believe it.

It is interesting in this connection that President Nixon's economic advisers, who now admit that their promised economic recovery is hopelessly behind schedule, argue against any further reflation because it would entail on incomes policy.

If you believe passionately enough in the market and its discipline, then to secure

## All the signals seem set for reflation

By ANTHONY HARRIS

These are the tests for policy—not the divergence from some supposed growth path or "game plan" in the discredited American terminology. The evidence on inflation at the moment is far too provisional to claim that it is time to change policy.

Nor is the political argument compelling: it would not be easy to produce any noticeable boom in the economy in time to influence the market debate (there is a limited method, but we will come to that later).

More important, reflationary action has already been taken. The Budget was packed with it, but only the cut in the standard rate of income tax so far taken effect—and there was a recovery in retail spending in April.

The increased child tax allowances and the cut in SET come through in the next few weeks, and the big rise in pensions in September. Credit is readily available, so we're all set to go.

In addition, the vote to enter the Common Market is itself expected to boost the economy. The Treasury estimate is that the sure prospect of entry will lead to additional industrial investment amounting to £500 million a year when plans have time to come through as action.

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growth by such means is in effect saying that non-inflationary growth in a free market economy is no longer possible, and that it makes sense to talk growth only in the context of administered wages.

I call these sub-issues, because the central issue remains the same: whether to fight inflation through tight market conditions (and conditions if we achieved Mr Barber's growth targets would remain tight—that is what is intended), or whether we should partially abandon that struggle and adopt other means.

Yet it seems to me that all these arguments dodge what has now become crucial: why is the recession deeper than expected, why did the same thing happen in the US,

and why is the recovery behind schedule there?

The answer, it will surprise no regular reader to learn, is the state of business confidence: and that is why I regard the UCS collapse as the most significant news economically this week.

The collapse of Rolls-Royce and Vauxhall started the trouble, this continues it. This leads to difficult credit conditions regardless of official policy, to cuts in investment plans and efforts to reduce stocks regardless of the level of the whole pushing-on-a-string syndrome.

It leads to higher personal saving in spite of inflation.

In one economic phrase, the collapse of confidence has led to a large and sudden rise in liquidity preference—one of the key Keynesian concepts: and that change upsets all the economic relationships contained in the equations for recovery.

That is why all the money that the Americans are pumping out, or nearly all of it,

is vanishing into precautionary balances instead of appearing in expenditure and growth. It is also why the Bank of England clearly no longer believes that the Budget will actually succeed in refuting the economy.

In fact, the strongest argument for some reflationary action now is simply that it would not work—not, at any rate, without a long time-lag. But it might help to prevent any further loss of confidence which might pay some political dividends.

There is no need now for unyielding policies to maintain a tight market: it will maintain itself.

Ideally, of course, the action taken should be quickly reversible if the balance of payments or the level of employment seemed to indicate a change—and the quickest action both ways is through credit policy. A relaxation of hire-purchase controls and a drop in interest rates would produce some reduction in costs, improvement in profits, and short-lived lift for consumption but as US experience shows, there would be little chance of the recovery getting out of hand. The difficulty will be to get it started.

Barber holds firm

By our Political Staff

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Barber, refused, in spite of all the urging of his predecessor, Mr Roy Jenkins in Commons yesterday, to alter his Budget judgment that there would be 3 per cent growth in GDP.

He insisted there would be no change this year, adding: "Obviously I do not consider that the level of unemployment or the prospects for investment are in any way

satisfactory. But I believe that one cannot chop and change from month to month. If it should be desirable that there should be changes, then these should be taken. It is not an admission of weakness, but the sensible thing to do. I do not propose to say any more at this stage because I believe it is right that if and when changes are to be made they should be announced at the proper time."

felt its own offer was far too high) so it sold out, leaving the field to Valor.

Rippingilles recommended the Valor offer, pointing out that the company would not be able to survive unless it merged with a larger organisation—or any organisation for that matter which had money.

Then came another shock—the Department of Trade and Industry said the merger would have to be referred to the Monopolies Commission.

Provided monopolies commission eventually gave the merger the green light, Valor would press on with its bid. This could still happen but the deterioration of the company's financial position makes it appear unlikely.

After Government intervention Rippingilles felt it could not be left in an exposed position, so it started takeover talks with a third party.

This third party, almost certainly interested in a "shell" operation, also failed to produce anything acceptable and Rippingilles' financial position was deteriorating so fast that the board had no option but to call in a receiver.

All might not be lost for Valor, or for that matter Wm Brandt's. Both could approach the receiver and bid for part or all of the assets, and Valor for one says it is considering such action.

But at its most certainly lost for Rippingilles' shareholders. In fact the company has only survived the past few months because it managed to extract £100,000 from the Birmingham Corporation over a dispute about the compulsory purchase of part of its land.

## Chambers in the chair at Spey

Sir Paul Chambers has been appointed chairman of Spey Investments as part of a series of board changes by Spey Investments. Sir Paul is already a director and chairman of Spey Finance, the banking and finance subsidiary.

Mr Clifford French and Mr Charles Gordon have been made deputy chairmen. Lord Chalfont, chief executive of Spey Finance, has been appointed a managing director, joining with Mr Richard Barclays and Sir Julian Salmon respectively.

Sir Paul Chambers is the chairman of the Royal Insurance group and has been a director of Spey Investments since May last year.

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## Advance by Allied

MR Robert Eades, chief executive of Allied Breweries (UK) yesterday forecast a very substantial rise in sales over the group's three leading national beers. The company, he said, was budgeting for a 35 per cent volume increase in sales of Double Diamond over the next five years, a 100 per cent increase in Skol Lager, and a 100 per cent increase in Long Life.

Mr Eades also confirmed that Allied Breweries expects to increase profits and sales this year at a faster rate than in 1969-70. The principal reason, he says, was that the group had managed by rationalisation and recent capital expenditure to reduce the cost of production.

Something went right for Rippingilles in 1964 but nobody seems to remember why. And that is a pity because 1964 was the only year in the past 11 that the company ruled off its books to discover it had actually made a profit.

After living in a near-moribund state ever since that celebrated event, the company finally conceded defeat yesterday when it asked its bankers, National Westminster, to appoint a receiver.

For its part, Rippingilles blames its demise on little more than the cash problem. "It's like Upper Clyde," a director, Mr R. H. Glasgow, said yesterday. "Our order book has never been better and neither has productivity. We just don't have enough cash to carry us through."

The analogy with Upper Clyde could be taken one stage further by placing more of the blame of management. Mr Glasgow joined the company only last year and he could not really enlarge on the company's management

After the first quarter's sales rise of 22 per cent, second quarter sales improved by only 15.5 per cent over the 1970 figure. Second quarter profits have eased too. In part the turn-down reflects the dislocations during the January to March period—strikes and the postal dispute being the most obvious—but the recession in the UK economy began to make a real impact on BOC. The company singles out the metals division as an area where demand fell sharply, and second quarter profits from this side of the business were nominal.

There were, too, perceptible, but not yet significant, signs that the important UK gases operation was beginning to see a weakening of demand in the second quarter.

For the current financial year the market can look for further growth perhaps a little below the 8 per cent level recorded in the first half. The outlook for 1971-2 is discouraging however, and BOC badly needs a recovery in the UK economy. The market is well aware of this and is banking on the Government providing a further stimulus. Selling at 13.4 times historic earnings the shares do not look over-valued.

Britain's shoe and boot manufacturers are worried that growing protectionist pressure in the US could hit them in their best export market, according to the president of the British Footwear Manufacturers' Association, Mr S. F. Kennedy.

He told the association's annual meeting yesterday: "North America is getting more difficult, and we must explore other potential fields of expansion, particularly in Europe."

A big fall in the industry's US sales would be very awkward, for Canada and the US take about almost one-third of Britain's shoe exports, and their imports from Italy and Spain

might be diverted to Britain if serious American controls were imposed.

Mr Kennedy was optimistic about the prospects for the industry if Britain goes into the Common Market, for he said many Continental footwear firms viewed it as a "formidable competitor."

Over the year production fell slightly, but sales in Britain were up by 10 per cent, with higher prices accounting for over half the increase. The big shift from shoes to boots was probably responsible for the rest of it, and there is no sign that this fashion has run its full course.

## Rippingilles gives up struggle for profits

By LINDSAY VINCENT

problems before his arrival. The record shows, however, that Rippingilles was lucky to be alive to this day: its stated losses over the past 11 years, around £850,000, are three times its paid capital and the biggest loss, that for 1970-71, has yet to be announced.

Rippingilles describes itself as an engineering and stevedore. In days past it was, but its fortunes are now tied to the manufacture and sale of oil heaters—hardly a good business to be in during the past five years but one which is now showing signs of revival.

It seems that Mr Arthur W. Richardson, who retired as chairman earlier this year, was moored of an engineer than an accountant. His creative talents brought a major innovation to the manufacture of radiant heaters—a "downrastrap" trap which was unique, simple and effective, soon competitors entered the market.

The new managing director and chairman Mr A. Johnstone had been in the chair only three months when he received a letter from Wm Brandt's, offering 5p a share, or no less than 25 times the asset value. Why so generous? "Because we thought it a good turnaround situation," explained Brandt's, but only if its people could manage to run the company and supervise the new model launch planned for the autumn.

Valor entered the field as a counterbidder, topping the Brandt's offer by 1p a share. Valor's Mr Michael Montague brought in Hill Samuel as advisers. Hill Samuel bought Valor 23 per cent of the capital. Wm Brandt's decided that 6p a share was ridiculous (it even

felt its own offer was far too high) so it sold out, leaving the field to Valor.

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Then came another shock—the Department of Trade and Industry said the merger would have to be referred to the Monopolies Commission.

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## CITY COMMENT

### Further growth ahead

EVEN THOUGH the shares of Trafalgar House Investments have come up from a low of 82 1/2p this year, and dramatically better results were confidently expected, there was enough of a surprise element in the figures to push the price further ahead for a new high.

Pre-tax profits are up from £23.33 million to over £5 million, and although the inclusion of Cementation tends to make any comparison meaningless, the earnings per share figure shows what a good growth year has been achieved.

Against 5.4p share a year ago earnings are now 7p. So even at the new peak the shares

Nor is the group dependent on dealing profits. The figure included in the latest results from the break up of blocks of flats acquired in the early stages is fairly marginal against the £6 million profit total. Moreover the 40 per cent of profits stemming from rentals argues for a higher rating.

But the final trend of the price must really depend on what level of growth the market feels the group is capable of now.

All the arguments must favour a further up trend in the price, for there would seem to be plenty of opportunity for a firm with Trafalgar's proven management. For a start margins (for what they mean in this particular industry) narrowed appreciably last year from nearly 6 per cent on external sales of £56.6 million to 4.5 per cent on sales of £128 million.

Presumably Cementation has yet to respond to treatment, while there could be some useful benefits from easier interest rates for this year as a whole.

Jack-in-the box-number

MAKING A COMPANY bid-proof is one of the obsessions of many boardrooms these days, and not a bad thing either if it makes for more efficiency.

Now, however, other business men are trying to capitalise on this obsession by offering to help companies realise their assets before the asset-stripping bidder appears on the scene.

Hambro Life recently said that it would look at properties offered and last week an advertisement appeared in the Financial Times offering "a simple scheme to stop directors of public companies risk in assets being taken over against their will."

Somebody should point out to the advertiser that it is the will of the shareholders as owners of the company, and not the wishes of the directors which should be paramount in this matter.

Just a word of warning, too. Before replying to box-number

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# How the Common Market's big purse could help Britain

NEARLY ALL the arguments against Britain's entry to the Common Market have concentrated on the cost of joining, says CHRISTOPHER LAYTON, Director of the Centre for European Industrial Studies. Here he examines some of the long-term benefits membership could bring

HAD YOU noticed how all those important political chaps who had been "waiting to see what the terms are" have been sliding off the fence a few weeks before they are actually known? In a way they are right. The fate of Caribbean sugar will depend on the balance of forces within the Community in some three years' time. New Zealand's butter problem will probably be very satisfactorily solved in practice by growing Continental demand.

As for the most awkward problem of all, that of the Community budget and the burden it might impose on Britain's own exchequer and balance of payments, the haggle over Britain's contribution in the first year of the transition period (4 per cent or 22 per cent?) could hardly give a more misleading impression of the issue that really counts.

Of course the budget battle in Brussels matters. The Community rightly defends the historic step which it took in February, 1970, of pooling Customs duties, agricultural levies, and up to 1 per cent of a value added tax: the first grant of the power of the purse to a European authority. The British on the other hand rightly protest that this system would unfairly penalise Britain, so long as it remains the largest contributor of levies on foodstuffs and the smallest beneficiary of a budget mainly spent on agriculture. Viciously the more economic argument against British membership of the Common Market has been constructed on the narrow base of pessimistic estimates about this budgetary cost.

Recent studies, like that by Mr Tim Joshi, suggest that the most pessimistic projections are wrong. After looking carefully at how British agriculture has responded in the past to price increases, he concludes that British agricultural production will expand far more than the White Paper estimates and that this will more than offset Britain's balance of payments may

actually be positive. It remains true that the rest of the British contribution to the Community's budget resources (Customs duties and value added tax of up to 1 per cent) will be a drain on Britain, so long as 97 per cent of the budget is spent on agriculture. In the short run it therefore makes sense for Britain to negotiate with the Six over the size of its contribution. Once the transition period is over, on the other hand, the size of Britain's contribution will no longer be an issue at all for Britain will automatically contribute as the others do. The key question for both Britain and the Community will then be what the budget is spent on.

In some respects it is a pity that this issue has not been raised more constructively in the entry negotiations themselves, for here the narrowest British interest coincides with the wider interest of the Community itself. The Hague Conference called for the development of a common industrial and technology policy. A substantial budget for science and technology in Europe would bring a direct benefit to the British balance of payments and exchequer, provided it more than pays for itself (a probable UK contribution to the VAT) were spent in Britain. Budget spending on regional policies, now accepted by the Six as a precondition of their goal of monetary union, would also bring net benefit to Britain, provided the criteria for such spending are helpful to the new economies of the enlarged Community.

Nor would it have been difficult to think of one or two significant items of expenditure, such as the interest on the Community and Britain that they could help to bridge the gap between the two sides in the

immediate transition period. The Channel Tunnel, for instance, a classic piece of European infrastructure will be built in exactly the five years 1973-8. Just now, arrangements to finance it are being negotiated. There could hardly be a more appropriate case for a large scale very long-term loan with subsidised interest rates, from the European Investment Bank.

Harwell, which costs £16 millions a year to maintain, is another classic case for an imaginative European move. Both Labour and Conservative governments have been, and will go on, running it down, because its original purpose has been fulfilled and the economic contribution it makes to the British economy does not justify its cost. If Harwell, on the other hand, were made a common research centre, a twin with the Community's existing centre at Ispra, it might fulfil a larger European need, both as a centre of research on the new concerns of European peace, and as a source of contract work for European industry as a whole. The move

would bring a clear financial benefit to Britain, a problem institution would become a common asset.

The wise diversification of the Community's budget spending, however, will remain a basic British interest, both now and later. Even in the context of the next few months it would be most valuable if some kind of political signpost could be put up, committing the Community to work in the 70s towards a more balanced pattern of expenditure. If the members cannot do this at a post-negotiation summit, then the Commission at least might, when it puts forward its proposals for next year's budget, attach a target for 1978 or 1980. A budget of \$6,000 millions in 1980, twice that of today, of which, say, one third was spent on agriculture, one third on science and technology, and one third on regional and social policy, looks a realistic target and one which would totally change the perspective for Britain.

No one in Britain should want to develop Community expenditure merely for the sake of getting a slightly larger share back. There are

however specific British needs which coincide with Community ones.

The Italian Government has already nailed the colours of a common regional policy to the Community's mast, ensuring that when the Six did at last agree on first modest steps towards monetary union in February, this year they made the development of regional policies a crucial precondition of the final fixing of exchange rates. Britain has a similar interest, provided the criteria for regional policy fit the specific British need.

For historical reasons, Britain's regional problem is not the same as that of any of the Six, except for parts of Belgium and the Ruhr. While their major regional problem is the bringing of industry to pre-industrial agricultural regions, Britain's main need is to inject new vitality into the urban wastelands inherited from the early industrial revolution.

One Community proposal that Britain should support is for the creation of a regional fund which would supplement the commercial lending of the Investment Bank, with subsidies to regional loans and projects of this kind.

Science and advanced technology is the major area where British interest coincides with a new Community perspective. Here the key practical proposal, which the British should be supporting, is the Commission's suggestion, now before the Council of Ministers, that common development contracts for new technology should be funded out of the Community budget. The Rolls-Royce situation, in February this year, would have looked very different if such contracts could have injected Community finance into

it. In industries like computers and semi-conductors a little money spent on development contracts at European level, and used as an incentive to Europe's splintered companies to combine, would achieve far more than larger sums spent on unviable national programmes. In such areas the new conventional talk about European companies being needed as an answer to America needs to be translated into facts by timely catalytic cash.

Common financing may also be increasingly valuable for certain common infrastructure projects which are, in their nature, common public services for Europe, like the European-wide data-networks of the future, or a fast hovertrain network for Europe passing through the first (or a second) Channel Tunnel. These may still appear utopian today but will become necessities as soon as public opinion revolts against the environmental consequences for Europe of further development of air traffic.

There is indeed no difficulty in imagining new fields where the full potential of an enlarged Community can only be realised by an expanded budget. The Six very naturally assumed a financial responsibility for aid to Africa. An enlarged Community should at some stage surely accept a collective responsibility for Asia and evolve a specific programme for the development of intermediate technologies suited to the developing world. For the Labour Party, in particular, the constructive development of Europe's public sector should be of special interest.

At this stage in history, it can hardly be expected that the Labour Party will cross the Common Market bridge in dignity and harmony. But if the party wants to rediscover a distinct and positive line for the future, it should surely be to strengthen the EEC's institutions and budget so that in the new wider free trading region, public power measures up to Europe's common social and industrial needs.

## Germans sell 250M dollars

The Bundesbank, which is estimated to have sold \$250 million yesterday without causing more than a ripple in currency markets, revealed in its monthly report that in the first week in June it sold \$1,000 million net. Gross sales of \$3,000 million were offset by forward contracts of \$2,000 million.

There are no further forward contracts due this month so current sales of dollars are all direct from West Germany's swollen reserves. Another \$1,000 million of forward purchases are due for delivery in July.

An official explained that the Bundesbank's selling policy was partly designed to maintain what was seen as the natural downward trend in the exchange rate against the mark, and prevent an artificial squeeze situation arising from an orderly market—a claim supported by yesterday's undramatic trading. But the main aim was to keep domestic liquidity tight.

The report said excessive liquidity in West Germany threatened to accelerate the renewed upward trend in West Germany's economy, which the bank noted this spring.

In the past 16 months, foreign exchange inflows created 46,000 million marks in added liquidity, the central bank said. Though various monetary and fiscal measures, about 31,000 million marks of this added liquidity had been absorbed, leaving 15,000 million marks of highly liquid funds at banks, the bank said.

To curtail this liquidity, which threatens domestic stability, the Bonn Government temporarily freed the Bundesbank from its obligation to intervene in support of the dollar at fixed points.

Thus, Bundesbank said, it is no longer obliged to absorb foreign exchange inflow.

In another move to tighten liquidity, Bundesbank's central bank council has increased minimum reserve requirements, effective from June 1.

## Board changes

Cornwall Property (Holdings) having declared their offer for the capital of Copthall Holdings to be unconditional, announced the following changes on the board of the latter.

Mr Jameson R. Bates, Mr Philip R. Bean, and Mr G. D. B. Hopkins have resigned.

Mr Ronald Shuck, chairman, Mr George Rainford, financial director and Mr Alec Taylor, group surveyor of Cornwall Property (Holdings), are appointed to the board of Copthall Holdings.

## Tokyo shares hit peak

The leading index of the Tokyo Stock Exchange, the 225-share index, closed at an historic peak of 2,542.13 yesterday, surpassing the previous high of 2,534.45, set in April last year.

The new high, reached after six consecutive sessions of rising prices, came amid active trading. It was up 10.64 points from Monday's closing level.

The stock exchange index, a broad-based indicator of the prices of issues listed on the first section of the Tokyo exchange, closed at 192.45, up 0.72 or 0.38 per cent. It also stands at a record high. First-section volume totalled 200 million shares, up from 180 million shares exchanged on Monday.

In the second section, the index closed at 237.83, down 0.02 or 0.01 per cent. Volume fell to 8 million shares from 8.2 million shares on Monday.

The 225-share index's high comes at a time when many brokers have described investor attitude as hesitant because the Japanese economy has shown few signs of recovering from its

## Dixons beat trend

Peter Dixon (Holdings), the paper manufacturer, managed to achieve higher profits for 1970-71 in spite of a fire at the Grimshy Mill and recession in the industry.

The result, however, is struck after an insurance adjustment and the dividend is cut by three points to 10 per cent to conserve resources.

Allowing for the insurance claim, group trading profit has moved up from £206,000 to £263,000. But this is largely offset by a drop from £371,000 to £49,000 in the contribution from British Tissues.

Pre-tax profit before special credits, however, works out at £339,000, compared with £317,000, but including a profit on property sales, the net surplus after tax has increased from £340,000 to £480,000.

The chairman, Mr Bernard Dixon, commented that substantial investment in packaging and pulp-making activities in Finland has stood the group in good stead during a difficult period. He feels it would be inappropriate to forecast for 1971-72 because of the current economic situation.

## Rexmore earnings and payout rise

There has been a slowing down in growth since Rexmore, the Liverpool based converter of textiles and PVC products, reported a 42 per cent jump in the pre-tax profit at the half-way stage.

The results for 1970-1, however, fully justify the 44 points rise in the dividend which with a final of 18 per cent is brought up to 37 per cent, against 22½ per cent.

Shareholders are also to get a one-for-ten scrip issue and the board hopes to maintain the dividend for 1971-2 on the larger capital. Meanwhile, a 23 per cent rise to £20.5 million in the turnover has produced a 14 per cent increase to £1.2 million in the pre-tax profit for 1970-1.

## Chamberlain

### Phipps pays 25 pc

With a final of 17 per cent, the total dividend of Chamberlain Phipps is being raised to 24 per cent for 1970-1, compared with 24 per cent. The larger payment is backed by an increase from £1.1 million to £1.13 million in the pre-tax profit and from £568,000 to £705,000 after tax.

## Arthur Lee

### under pressure

The pressure on the profitability of the steel-using industries is well illustrated by the first-half results of Arthur Lee, the Sheffield steel and wire

manufacturers. pre-tax profit has slipped by some £270,000 to £812,000 from a slightly lower turnover of £12.5 million, but the interim dividend is being held at 5 per cent.

The latest figures do not include any windfall profits on stocks arising from increases in prices or a contribution from the associated company, Alloy Steel Rods, in view of the lower demand for steel products, the board feel that the results are satisfactory, but they warn that increased costs will result in lower profits in the second half.

## Plenty of life in Yorkshire Dyeware

A big rise in profits brings a 34 points increase to 37 per cent in the dividend of Yorkshire Dyeware and Chemical for 1970-1. A 25 per cent rise in sales has produced a 47 per cent jump to £1,088,000 in the pre-tax profit.

Exports increased by 36 per cent, and sales growth was not impeded as much by raw material shortages as expected at the time of the last half-yearly report. The group has also been helped by a successful control of organisation costs.

This year has got off to a satisfactory start with sales maintaining the trend of the past six months of 1970-1. Directors are confident that this will continue.

## Plushpile step up dividend 2 points

Plushpile (Wharf Mill), the Ashton-under-Lyne house furnishing group, is stepping up its dividend by two points, a final of 9 per cent making 16 per cent for 1970-1. There is to be a one-for-ten scrip issue.

The larger payment is backed by a jump in profit from £55,038 to £53,069 before providing £31,985 (£25,049) for tax.

The directors are cautiously optimistic. All retail trades are suffering from a lack of confidence by the buying public, but they feel this is temporary and see no reason why the current year should not produce even better profits.

## Lankro squeeze an increase

Lankro Chemicals is paying a final of 15 per cent, making 20 per cent for 1970-1—against the equivalent of 18½ per cent allowing for a one-for-ten scrip issue.

The group has obviously had the familiar experience of squeezed margins, because it has taken a 28 per cent increase to £15.3 million in the turnover to produce a 12.3 per cent rise to £845,000 in the pre-tax profit.

Latest results reflect

increased turnover from the acquisition of Burt and Harvey and Arkwright Chemicals.

## Too good to last say Clover

Clover Dairies reports sharply higher profits for 1970-1 but shareholders are warned that it will have "to do extremely well" to match them this year. A final 15 per cent dividend brings the total to 27½ per cent, an increase of 5 per cent.

Pre-tax profit has leaped from £871,000 to £923,000, thanks partly to a larger than usual retrospective payment by the Ministry of Agriculture and a mild winter. The board confidently expect some growth in profits.

## Sweeter taste from allsorts

Geo. Bassett Holdings, the liquorice allsorts group, prospered in 1970-1 and the dividend is being raised by two points to 18 per cent, making 29 per cent for the year. The results are in line with the forecast last November, a pre-tax profit of £1,180,000, comparing with £1,014,000.

The directors report that the UK manufacturing companies exceeded the forecast and maintaining their margins. The wholesale group also returned satisfactory figures, but the Dutch subsidiary did not live up to expectations and earned substantially lower profits. Steps are being taken to restore them in 1971-2.

## Pegler makes less, pays more

Though Pegler-Hattersley, the Doncaster plumbing fittings, valve, and pump manufacturer, turns in slightly lower profits for 1970-71, the dividend is being increased by 2½ points—a final of 25 per cent, making 49 per cent for 1970.

Pre-tax profit slipped from £4.89m to £4.55m last year—a result which reflects a fall from £738 to £598 per ton in the price of copper, making a gain in 1970. The directors estimate that had it not been for this factor pre-tax profit would have shown a 13 per cent increase over the previous year.

The results include the group's share of the profits of its associated companies, which it has a substantial equity interest, and comparative figures for 1970 have been adjusted for this change in treatment.

## Ebor-Phoenix pension link

Ebor Securities Ltd (through the Save and Prosper Group) and Phoenix Assurance have launched a company to specialise in management and administration of pension funds for companies and partnerships. It is called Ebor Financial Services, and the partners each own half the shares.

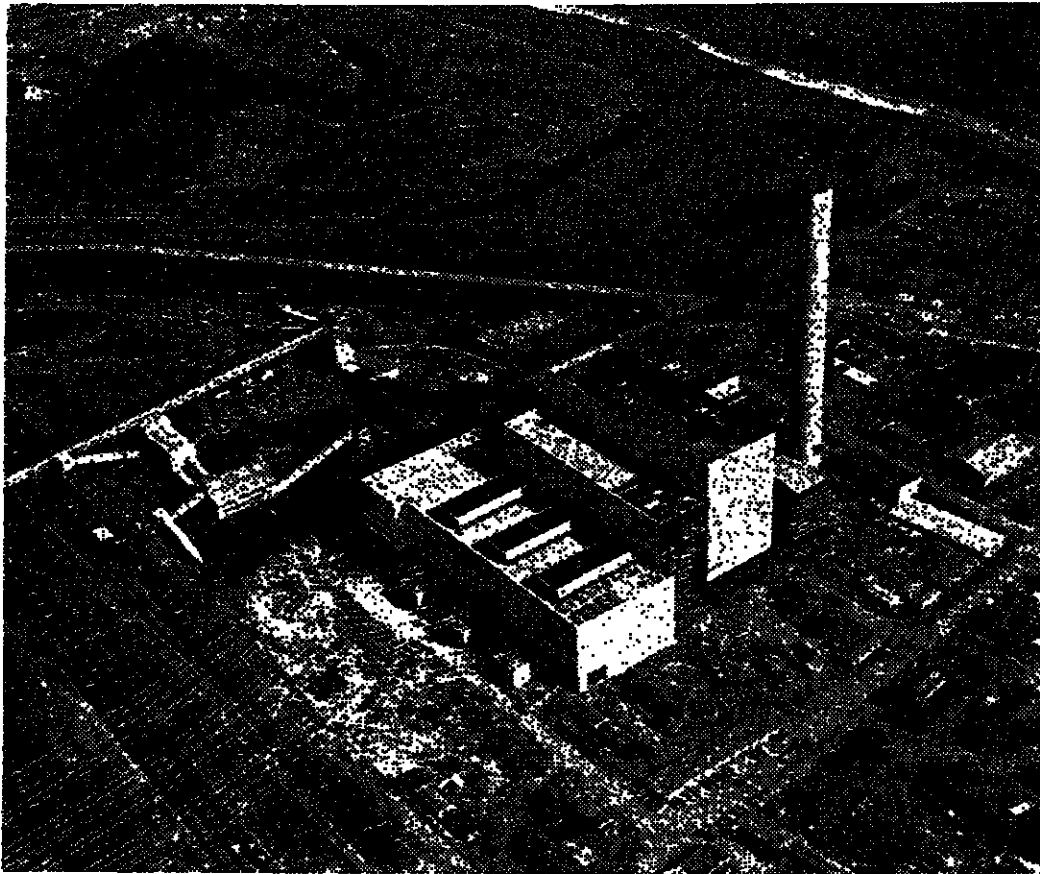
## MK increases total dividend

Trading profits of appliance manufacturers MK Electric Holdings rose from £1.48 million to £1.55 million in the year to March 1971.

Profit after tax was £930,000, compared with £748,000 in 1970. The board is recommending a final dividend of 12 per cent, making 18 per cent for the year compared with 15½ per cent in 1970.

## Chief executive

Mr Gordon L. Ball, the former marketing director of the George Kent group and Cambridge Instruments, has been appointed UK chief executive of Management and Finance SA, the Geneva based company which specialises in international business consultancy and venture financing.



Claimed to be the largest private power station in Britain, Alcan Aluminium's new 390 megawatt power house on the Northumberland coast at Lynemouth, will meet the needs of the adjoining aluminium smelter due to start production by the end of the year

## Company news in brief

### Final results

Redman: 11.2 per cent making 14.5 per cent (14.16 per cent). Pre-tax profit £223,541 (£204,598). Avenue Close: Div. 10 per cent (8½ per cent). One-for-ten scrip issue proposed, expected to maintain div. at 10 per cent in increased capital. Pre-tax profit £97,022 (£73,378).

Country and New Town Properties: Div. 7½ per cent (forecast 7 per cent). Pre-tax profit £183,358 (£168,743).

Clifford and Snell: 9 per cent making 13 per cent (same). Pre-tax profit £100,460 (£129,428).

Dean Wilson (Holdings): 81 per cent making 12 per cent (11 per cent). Pre-tax profit £238,952 (£198,795).

Bear Brand: Payment of div on preference for half-year to June 30 deferred. (Div in arrears from July 1, 1969).

### Interim results

Northern Industrial Improvement Trust: Interim 1½ per cent (same).

Dean Smith Holdings: Interim 12 per cent (10 per cent). Board intend to maintain final at 14 per cent making 26 per cent (24 per cent). Pre-tax profit for six months to March 31 £75,000 (£65,000).

East and West Investment Trust: 0.4375p (same). Net revenue £15,871 (£12,345).

Ferro Metal and Chemical Corporation: 15 per cent (against equivalent 12½ per cent). Group pre-tax profit for six months to March 31 £133,307 (£199,365).

Meldrum Investment Trust: Interim 10 per cent as forecast in respect of 11 months to Dec. 31 (for year 1970-71 single div. of 6 per cent paid).

### Bids and deals

Bulpitts (Swan Brand): The formal offer by BSR of 75p cash for each share of Bulpitts (Swan Brand) has been posted. As known, Bulpitts directors have already agreed terms. They recommend acceptance and will accept in respect of 1,008,202 shares held by them, their wives and trustees of their family trusts. Brightside Engineering Holdings: The directors of Brightside Engineering Holdings now recommend shareholders to accept the bid from Jessel Secs. They intend to accept in respect of their own holdings.

## Vast Soviet oil finds in prospect

The Soviet Union has prospects for further vast oil discoveries, two Soviet experts reported yesterday.

About 12 million square kilometres of Soviet territory, or approximately half the nation, is promising for oil and gas prospecting they told the World Petroleum Congress, currently in the third day of a quadrennial meeting in Moscow.

Much of this area still awaits prospecting, and even known petroleum-bearing districts have been poorly prospected in some regions, V. V. Semenov and N. S. Erofeev reported.

Mr Semenov, of the Ministry of Geology, and Mr Erofeev, of the Ministry of Petroleum Industry, noted that over the past five years the average annual increase in oil production was 21.5 million tons and in gas production 14,000 million cubic metres.

Last year total Soviet oil and gas production amounted to 350 million tons of oil and 198,000 million cubic metres of gas. In the next five years the Soviet Union plans to raise this annual production to around 500 million tons of oil and 300,000 million cubic metres of gas.

Future prospecting to ensure continued growth of Soviet

petroleum production is to be carried out in three general areas: the European part of the Soviet Union, which is the major current petroleum producing area; Western Siberia and Central Asia, where the biggest discoveries were made in the past 10 years and which still has vast untapped regions with promising geological structures; East Siberia and the Far East, as well as the coastal sea shelf and the shelves of the Caspian and Black seas.

Mr Semenov and Mr Erofeev described the discovery of oil and gas in the West Siberian lowland as "the main and most remarkable result of the last decade." They said the prerequisites for a powerful oil and gas industry have been created.

Production last year amounted to 31 million tons of oil. In five years this is to be raised to 120 million tons, and by 1980 to 230 million tons to 260 million tons. Equally important, they said, will be further prospecting of the Volga-Urals province, which they described as the greatest oil and gas-bearing province of the world. It accounts for 70 per cent of Soviet petroleum production and important new strikes are being regularly reported there.

## Neddy call for faster knitting

Britain leads the field in the manufacture of women's jumpers and cardigans, according to a new National Economic Development Office report

But it says that the average UK firm could raise its productivity by between 30 per cent and 50 per cent using existing equipment by boosting output speeds to the level attained by high-performance manufacturers.

In the medium term, it says, fully fashioned knitwear manufacturers could raise productivity by 100 per cent and cut-and-sewn manufacturers by 180 per cent by improving output speed to within 25 per cent of times in more efficient companies.

The report follows a survey of 19 high performance companies in France, Italy, Portugal, Hong Kong, the United States and the UK.

## Defence bonds conversion

The Treasury announced yesterday that a conversion offer will be made to holders of 4½ per cent Defence bonds (second issue) bought in the period April 16 to May 14, 1964. These bonds will mature on October 15, 1971 and are repayable on application at £102.50 per cent upon maturity.

Holders will be invited to exchange their holdings on October 15, 1971 into 7 per cent British Savings bonds (fifth conversion issue) which will be repayable on application at £103 per cent upon maturity. The terms of these new bonds will be the same as those of the 7 per cent British Savings bonds (second issue) currently on sale.

Holders of the maturing 4½ per cent Defence bonds (second issue) who decide not to accept the conversion offer should apply for repayment. No interest will be payable on the bonds after they mature on October 15, 1971 and they can only be repaid upon application by the holder.

## Benefits in Six for ICI

Mr Jack Callard, chairman of ICI, said in Frankfurt yesterday that entry to the EEC on terms that were satisfactory to all members, would benefit ICI, customers and employees in the United Kingdom.

This, he said, was because Britain's trade as a member of the enlarged economic unit would grow faster than it could possibly do outside it or that it has done recently.

Mr Callard was speaking at the official opening of the new headquarters of ICI Deutschland in Frankfurt.

The new nineteenth-storey ICI Haus is situated in Frankfurt's new Burostadt and houses 23 ICI employees responsible for sales of ICI plastics, chemicals, fibres, dyestuffs, and metals in West Germany.

Sales of ICI products in West Germany are currently running at a level of about \$40 million, a hundred-fold increase in the past ten years. Whereas ten years ago, ICI's German business was based exclusively on imports from the United Kingdom, 80 per cent of its sales today are products manufactured in ICI plants within the Common Market.

## Triumph's US sales record

Record sales of Triumph sports cars in the US were achieved last month, the Triumph Motor Company announced yesterday. Sales of 2,450 cars showed an increase of 53 per cent over the 1,600 sold in May last year and made Triumph's month their best in the US since June 1964.

US sales of 8,418 Triumph cars in the first five months of the year were a 38 per cent increase over the corresponding period of 1970 and the order books are still full.

The Triumph Spitfire Mark IV, the GT6 Mark III and the TR6 are strengthening their hold on the US car market, said the company, while the introduction of the Triumph Stag in April gave added sales impetus.

Common Market countries took the largest share of the worldwide car exports of the British Leyland Motor Corporation—of which Triumph forms part—in the first quarter of 1971.

The 113,070 car units exported produced the highest first quarter figures since the corporation was formed in 1968 and were 20 per cent above last year's comparable figure of 94,984.

Exports to EEC countries numbered 38,579—42 per cent increase on the 1970 figure.

## Busier start to year for builders

Building activity in Britain was 12½ per cent higher in the first quarter of 1971 than the corresponding quarter in 1970, according to the monthly index issued by the National Federation of Builders' and Plumbers' Merchants.

The index, based on the value of materials and deliveries to building sites, shows that the smallest increase for the three months—6.3 per cent—was in the north-west.

The north-east continued to show the most impressive returns, with an increase of 17.4 per cent over the same period in 1970.

July 1971























# Pakistan 'guilty of genocide'

By FRANCIS BOYD, Political Correspondent

The president and military leaders of Pakistan are accused of having broken the genocide convention of the United Nations—and therefore, by implication, of being liable to trial—in a motion tabled in the House of Commons last night by 120 Labour MPs.

They include six Privy Counsellors, the chairman of the Labour Party, Mr Ian Mikardo, and three other members of Labour's national executive—Mr Frank Allaun, Mr Tom Bradley, and Mr Tom Driberg.

The principal sponsor of the motion is Mr John Stonehouse, formerly Minister of Posts and Telecommunications, who described the motion as "the greatest frontal attack on the head of a Commonwealth Government ever made."

## Disaster fund reaches £1½ M

By our own Reporter

More than £500,000 has been raised by the Disaster Emergency Committee to help Pakistani refugees since the national appeal was launched a week ago.

The committee, representing five major British charities, said there were still several mailbags of cheques to be opened. Reports reaching Christian Aid in London yesterday from Calcutta warned of new piles of relief stores. The Christian Agency for Social Action, which is handling the large quantities of aid sent by charities connected with the World Council of Churches, asked it to suspend further relief supplies and not to send any more foreign medical teams.

A Christian Aid spokesman in London said that CASA workers who were handling thousands of refugees needed a great deal of money and help could best be given in this way. The Disaster Emergency Committee said yesterday that seven landrovers and four ambulances are being sent to Calcutta this week to meet transport needs.

Mr Reginald Maudling, the Home Secretary, said yesterday that the Home Office is to investigate the position of refugees who wish to come here to join close relatives but cannot provide the requisite papers because of the situation in East Bengal.

"Therefore believes that the UN Security Council must be called urgently to consider the situation both as a threat to international peace and as a contravention of the genocide convention."

"And further believes that until order is restored under UN supervision, the provisional government of Bangladesh should be recognised as the vehicle for the expression of self-determination by the people of East Bengal."

Mr Stonehouse said last night that while the Pakistani army controlled the largest towns there was widespread support for Bangladesh in other parts of the country. He thought that, after the monsoons, this support would increase.

Mr Stonehouse added: "The terms of the motion are meant to be strong."

"The horrors being perpetrated in East Bengal are so evident that they need strong language to condemn them."

He said that Britain, as one of the signatories to the Genocide Convention, was entitled to take up the question, and to indict Pakistan and its leaders for contravening its provisions.

If you want to be a member of a hospital management committee, responsible for the day-to-day administration of one of the hospitals controlled by the Oxford Regional Board, your best chance of appointment is to be over 60 and a company director.

This was claimed yesterday by Mrs Jean Robinson, of the Oxford Regional Hospital Board. She has analysed the composition of Hospital Management Committees in the year March 1971 in the jurisdiction of her board. "Nearly 37 per cent of the 200 members were 60 or over," she told the Guardian. "In four HMCs half the committee was aged 60 or over and of the 200 members only nine were under 40."

Mrs Robinson also found

## Jobs for the over-60s

that only 23 per cent of the members were women although, she said, the ratio of male to female patients in hospital was three female to two male. The most common occupation of the members was that of company director—12 per cent were so employed. The High Wycombe HMC had a quarter of seven company directors out of a total committee of 13 laymen.

Mrs Robinson is extremely critical of the methods by which people are chosen for the boards of local hospital management committees.

"Five years ago, when I joined, it was initially true to say that you would not get on to an HMC committee unless you were nominated by the committee itself."

Since then the situation had improved from being a "self-perpetuating" series of committees but, Mrs Robinson added, "25,000 babies are born per annum and still no woman of child-bearing age is on any of the HMCs."

Mrs Theresa Stewart, a former member of the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board, agrees with Mrs Robinson. "In the Birmingham area out of 165 members of HMCs only four were under the age of 40 and a very great proportion were over the age of 60," she said.

Mrs Stewart also feels that the composition of the committees is too limited and restricted. "There are no nurses or junior doctors on the committees," she said.

And since the chairman of each Hospital Management Committee reported back to the Regional Hospital Board about his committee members "anyone who makes a fuss about conditions won't be reappointed."

Regional Hospital Boards are appointed by the Department of Health who in turn appointed Hospital Management Committees. These committees appoint medical staff—though consultants are appointed by the RHBs—and are responsible for the life and times of each hospital.

"I am seriously disturbed that the new area-boards (proposed by the Department of Health consultative document on the future of the National Health Service) will mean that the members of the new area health authorities will be chosen in the same way as at present," Mrs Stewart said.

Nicholas de Jongh

## Police oppose migrant checks

The Police Federation has asked the Government to drop the proposal in the Immigration Bill for "non-patrials" Common wealth citizens to register with and report to the police as aliens do already.

In a memorandum, the federation proposes one of two alternatives should be adopted.

The first is that the "non-patrials" or "non-patrials" should be required to enter through one of a limited number of entry points. The initial registration should be at the entry point and since most "non-patrials" come to Britain to work, the onus of follow up of the home address and the issue of a fan employment card should be the responsibility of employment exchanges.

Police activity would be confined to suspect cases and potential areas of friction between the immigrant and police would be eliminated.

The second suggestion is that preliminary registration of "non-patrials" at employment exchanges, rather than at police stations. The memorandum says it is proper that police duty should include verification of registration by "non-patrials" by demand for production of registration certificates in the same way that demand production of, but not issue, driving licences certificates of insurance.

The federation says it considered the implications of enforcing deportation orders and the situation that arises if it was necessary to enter a high density immigration area to take into custody the family of an immigrant to be deported.

It says that while this could cause an inflammatory situation between police and immigrant it can see no alternative to the procedure.

## Girl 'in a tantrum'

Mrs Donna Law, of West Walk, Yaxley, near Peaborough, has demanded an apology from a local education authority because she claims her daughter, Donna, aged 11, was forced to walk across a school playground in stocking feet by two teachers.

She said she had received telephone call from the mistress saying Donna had been in a tantrum and was very troublesome. She was later home, sobbing, in her wet socks by one of the teachers.

The headmistress of school, Mrs Jane Weedon, said that Donna had been in a tantrum. The reason Donna did not her shoes on was because had kicked them off in a tantrum. I explained to the mistress what had happened and took her home. It was the thing to do in circumstances.

## Seen but not Hurd in House

By CHRISTINE EADE

The Prime Minister yesterday defended his luckless private secretary, Mr Douglas Hurd, who has twice got no further than the short list as a by-election candidate for Conservative-held seats.

Mr Hurd then had to sit silently in the officials' box in the Commons and hear a final insult from Mr Dennis Skinner (Lab, Bolsover), who suggested: "If the Prime Minister goes to Macclesfield, he should leave behind him Mr Douglas Hurd, who had to run away from the selection conference when he found that the political paths in Macclesfield did not lead to Europe."

He demanded that the writ should be moved for the Macclesfield by-election before the summer recess. But the Prime Minister ignored the request and criticised Mr Skinner for breaking the traditions of the House by criticising a private secretary who could not answer for himself.

Mr Heath explained: "As far as his position is concerned, he wishes nothing more than to be judged on his merits as a candidate like anyone else. It is regrettable that on the last two occasions because of similar comments this was not possible."

Mr Hurd was also on the short list for Arundel and Shoreham. It was the clue for the Labour victor of Bromsgrove, Mr Terry Davis, to make his first speech. He was cheered so long before he could start that it seems likely that Mr Heath will not be so well received when he makes official visits to the West Midlands in September and October.

"Isn't the Prime Minister aware of the totally impossible position in which he has put both the Conservative candidates for Bromsgrove and Macclesfield by not keeping either of his most important promises—to reduce unemployment and the rise in prices?" asked Mr Davis.

Mr Heath replied that he could stop carrying on his electioneering now.

Exams in pollution

School sixth-formers will be able to take A-level examinations in environment and pollution if a scheme prepared in Hertfordshire is accepted by examination boards.

The Hertfordshire plan, which has already been successfully tested in the county, involves a four-part, two-year course in the workings of the environment, ecology, man and his effect on the environment, and planning. It is expected that the examination would become a university or job qualification in the same way as any other A-level.

The plan has been formed by a working party under the chairmanship of Mr Sean Carson, the LEA's adviser on environmental studies.

## Met men keep cool, as the rain it raineth every day

By our own Reporter

We have not suffered alone the recent icy downpour. Scratching about (it seems) for something to say at the end of the new long-range weather forecast issued yesterday, the Meteorological Office says that temperatures, over the past 30 days, have been well below in Western Siberia also.

Pushed for more than consolation from Russia, the forecasters say of their last 30-day forecast: "Although generally the description of the weather was about correct, it was much colder than expected in most districts. The heavy rain of the past few days made the South-east much wetter than had been forecast."

Forecasters at the service's Bracknell headquarters are not downhearted, though one admitted that the past few days had been "one of those occasions when we are wrong." But the trend is for long-range forecasting to improve, with the addition of more information and better techniques. Over the past 18 months they claim 80 per cent "good or above average forecasts."

The boast is that the predictions are statistically much better than one that simply digests the previous weather facts for a month and issues an average from them as a forecast. The long-range forecast starts by selecting weather patterns from past years similar to the current situation. Extra facts, such as the temperature of the Atlantic, are fed in to qualify the picture of what happened in the past, and the fore-

cast is then issued. The last 30 days, for instance, have been quite like mid-May to mid-June 1961.

For the next 30 days, much drier weather is expected. It will be warmer than average in the North, and more rain is likely in the North. There will be an average amount of sunshine in the South.

If one MP had his way, this forecast would be the last. Mr David Stoddart, Labour MP for Swindon, has tabled a question to the Minister of State, Defence, Lord Balmori, asking him to explain "the inaccurate 30-day weather forecast for June." He also wants the Government to consider discontinuing such forecasts.

Meanwhile, the cold snap goes on, in its wake creating unusually heavy electricity

demands. On Monday the peak demand was 2,500,000 kilowatts above normal for June, enough to meet the needs of two cities the size of Birmingham and Liverpool put together. Yesterday, draughtsmen at a refrigeration factory in Dartford, Kent, walked out when the temperature in their office dropped to 52°F. The heating at the factory of Hall-Thermotank Ltd. had been shut off for repairs, and the men returned after the company installed temporary heating in their office.

A new dimension in long-range forecasting was announced in the United States yesterday—the pollution forecast. The space programme has made possible "long-range predictions that will map the shape of tomorrow's pollution, whether it comes from the air, the water, or, more insidiously, from the creeping menace of urban sprawl."

## Spirit of Ascot

The fashion spirit of Ascot was very much alive yesterday, in spite of the weather. The pictures above (by Don Morley), prove it.

In spite of a cold wind and glowering skies, the Duke of Norfolk's edicts, chiffon hot pants were disguised under long chiffon maxi-skirts worn with little bra tops revealing the midriff, and huge floppy hats.

One woman did walk through the Royal Enclosure entrance in a hot pants suit, but it took a man to be turned away from the entrance—because he was in a green velvet hot pants jump suit with silver sandals.

Princess Margaret struck a new Royal fashion note. Her tapestry-type coat in white and grey pattern reached mid-length to the top of her matching grey boots, all under a large fawn hat. This was completely wreathed with cock's feathers, fluttering in the breeze.

## THE WEATHER

## DRIER OUTLOOK NEXT MONTH

Over the next 30 days, much drier weather is expected in 5 districts, according to the long range weather forecast, issued by the Meteorological Office. Some rain is expected during this period, although it is likely to fall mainly in the N.

As a whole, a good deal of dry weather is likely everywhere, but further short spells with heavy thundery rain are probable, especially in the S. Mean temperatures are

likely to be above average in Scotland, N Ireland, N England and N Wales but about average in S Wales and the remaining districts of England.

Rainfall totals are expected to be above average in S England, the Midlands, E Anglia and S Wales and below average in N and W Scotland. Sunshine will probably be about average in most districts, but above average in N and W Scotland.

### AROUND THE WORLD

(Lancaster reports)

Area	Temp	Wind	Weather
Algeria	27-31	10-15	Sunny
Amsterdam	10-15	10-15	Sunny
Antwerp	10-15	10-15	Sunny
Athens	10-15	10-15	Sunny
Bombay	27-31	10-15	Sunny
Buenos Aires	10-15	10-15	Sunny
Calcutta	27-31	10-15	Sunny
Cardiff	10-15	10-15	Sunny
Cebu	27-31	10-15	Sunny
Dublin	10-15	10-15	Sunny
Edinburgh	10-15	10-15	Sunny
Geneva	10-15	10-15	Sunny
Hamburg	10-15	10-15	Sunny
Harare	27-31	10-15	Sunny
Hong Kong	27-31	10-15	Sunny
London	10-15	10-15	Sunny
Lyons	10-15	10-15	Sunny
Madrid	27-31	10-15	Sunny
Manchester	10-15	10-15	Sunny
Maracaibo	27-31	10-15	Sunny
Medan	27-31	10-15	Sunny
Melbourne	10-15	10-15	Sunny
Mombasa	27-31	10-15	Sunny
Munich	10-15	10-15	Sunny
Nairobi	27-31	10-15	Sunny
Norwich	10-15	10-15	Sunny
Osaka	27-31	10-15	Sunny
Paris	10-15	10-15	Sunny
Perth	27-31	10-15	Sunny
Portsmouth	10-15	10-15	Sunny
Rangoon	27-31	10-15	Sunny
Reykjavik	10-15	10-15	Sunny
Rome	27-31	10-15	Sunny
Salt Lake City	27-31	10-15	Sunny
San Francisco	10-15	10-15	Sunny
Seoul	27-31	10-15	Sunny
Shanghai	27-31	10-15	Sunny
Singapore	27-31	10-15	Sunny
Stockholm	10-15	10-15	Sunny
Sydney	27-31	10-15	Sunny
Taipei	27-31	10-15	Sunny
Tokyo	27-31	10-15	Sunny
Toronto	10-15	10-15	Sunny
Trinidad	27-31	10-15	Sunny
Ulaanbaatar	27-31	10-15	Sunny
Yokohama	27-31	10-15	Sunny

### AROUND BRITAIN

Reports for the 24 hours ended 6 p.m. yesterday:

Area	Temp	Wind	Weather
Southport	9.5	0.1	14 57 Sunny
Blackpool	9.5	0.1	14 57 Sunny
Manchester	9.5	0.1	14 57 Sunny
Leeds	9.5	0.1	14 57 Sunny
Sheffield	9.5	0.1	14 57 Sunny
Birmingham	9.5	0.1	14 57 Sunny
Cardiff	9.5	0.1	14 57 Sunny
Belfast	9.5	0.1	14 57 Sunny
London	9.5	0.1	14 57 Sunny
Edinburgh	9.5	0.1	14 57 Sunny
Glasgow	9.5	0.1	14 57 Sunny
Newcastle	9.5	0.1	14 57 Sunny
Nottingham	9.5	0.1	14 57 Sunny
Sheff Hallam	9.5	0.1	14 57 Sunny
Southampton	9.5	0.1	14 57 Sunny
Wolverhampton	9.5	0.1	14 57 Sunny
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